FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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UFO AT SOFIA AIRPORT?

see page 2

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW
fsr

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For subscription details and address please see foot of page ii of cover

MORE BELIEFS

NINE volumes ago, in the issue of *Flying Saucer Review* for November-December 1965, we published an Editorial leader entitled "Beliefs." Now perhaps, at the completion of our twentieth year of publication, it is a good time to look once again at this very basic concept.

At this moment it is true to say that we are again entering into an period of ebb-flow of unconsidering opposition – at least on the part of some sectors of the public, of here and there a few organs of the press and of many younger and high-powered scientists at major universities. So, for the people – particularly our faithful readers – who have long realised how important is this subject, the lines we wrote in 1965 still apply:

> "However, while scepticism begins to ebb we must guard against a seldom-considered danger, and that is...belief. There is nothing more likely to harm the cause of serious study of the UFO problem than unthinking 'belief.' How often we hear the question: 'Do *you* believe in flying saucers?' And the equally silly reply: 'Yes, I believe in them!'... Fervent, but mistaken 'belief' of this nature betrays an absence of careful thinking, a lack of objectivity, and a tendency on the part of the 'believer' to treat the subject as a form of substitute religion..."

The article proceeds then to a reiteration of our "creed," and if such an avowal was considered necessary then, it is doubly necessary now. So here again is our creed, set out in the same order as in yesteryear, but with important additions and modifications which are the fruits of the intervening years of contemplation of the mass of UFO reports that have flowed around us...

We believe that 'flying saucers,' or UFOs, do exist: the evidence of sight, radar and sound indicates that some either might be metallic, or might give the impression of being metallic.

We believe that they could be powered in ways as yet unknown to man. There is ample evidence of their effects on electronic devices and on the electrical systems of internal combustion engines. However it is realised that these effects might be produced by something quite apart from the "propulsion unit."

We believe it possible that these objects could be either of extra-terrestrial origin, or that they could be coming to us from another time-space continuum, perhaps some "interpenetrating universe" (there is evidence of materialisation and dematerialisation to support speculation in this direction), or that they could come from both.

We believe that these objects have appeared before human beings in a guise, or a frame of reference appropriate to the period, or one that might be expected in the near future (relative to that period).

We believe that they are intelligently controlled (to support this contention there is a great mass of evidence of strange entities in landing and contact cases) and that they could be associated with, or indeed be responsible for, other psychical phenomena. We ask whether or not it is possible that some, or all, of the images and entities perceived and reported by the witnesses could be projected by the controlling powers and/or their UFOs, into the minds of the observers; that the often meaningless and gibberish messages, being more than just attempts to treat us as playthings, may or may not be part and parcel of attempts at the influencing of, or the remote control of human beings, in which many of the perpetrators could well have succeeded.

Furthermore we suspect now that they have been succeeding for thousands of years and that man, for as long as has been able, has been recording these intrusions into his realm (viz the important observations by Aimé Michel about the cave paintings of the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic,* and the enigmatic events in the Old Testament, for example, about Elijah/Elisha, and Ezekiel). Man has been aware throughout his time on Earth of the forces of good and evil – as they apply to him – and this awareness is the cornerstone of religion.

We recognise therefore that there could be a struggle for possession by groups of entities, each with its own form of UFO manifestation, from outside the Earth's atmosphere and/or from (for example) interpenetrating universes, or from among the elementals. While it is possible that little of this is concerned with the ultimate welfare of the human race, the great source of hope for mankind is that there *are* the good forces for which he yearns, and that it is these – no doubt with their own measure of control over us – that over the centuries have kept at bay the evil forces.

We believe that great care will be needed on the part of human beings, even in chance encounters with these objects. Not only should we heed the warnings inherent in the reports of people who have experienced unusual physical and mental effects, or have suffered physical harm, or worse, but also endeavour to avoid close contact on account of the very dangers detailed in the foregoing paragraph. There are known to be top-flight scientists who believe that "we must not answer the extraterrestrial telephone when it rings." With the propsects that any such caller may well want us as zoological specimens, or test tube samples, or even fodder, this is good advice.

We believe that the public is slowly learning that there are many people, who now treat this phenomenon with the utmost seriousness, and we hasten to add that it has long seemed to us that is is a subject which calls not only for study by scientists, but also by historians, theologians, classical scholars, specialists in linguistics, anthropologists, archaeologists, and so on.

We believed it possible, in 1965, that "some of the contactee claims, complete with 'messages,' may have more than an element of truth in them, albeit in a manner that neither the contactees nor sceptical ufologists expect." Hoaxing, we feared, was not the perogative of earth men. We believe that that view holds doubly good today, and that the crux of the whole UFO business will be found in the contact or contactee sphere: the signs have been there for all to see, as recently as the startling business of Andrija Puharich and Uri Geller, and others like Uri.

All in all, we believe there is a very real case to examine, and that this examination calls for completely open minds. *Every* aspect of the mystery must be studied, and we must here add one important point: those who have studied the reports and evidence in depth, and have felt at any time, suddenly, that they should give up the labours as being work unworthy of their time, or as work from which there is nothing more to be learned, should staunchly resist such inner urging and ask themselves where such prompting comes from, and why. We would take long odds on the possibility that it is the future well-being of mankind, body and soul, that is at stake. It goes without saying that our main problem is to locate the good forces and avoid the others, so we must continue our work of recording the evidence, and providing a platform for the great debate, in the knowledge that this may well be for the benefit of following generations; for posterity rather than ourselves.

* See *Palaeolithic UFO-shapes* in FSR Vol. 15, No. 6 (November-December 1969).

COVER PHOTOGRAPH, UFO AT SOFIA AIRPORT?

On December 30, 1972, the Vrajdebna Airport, near Sofia, Bulgaria, was re-opened after having been closed by a violent rainstorm. Elsewhere, writes **Yusuke J. Matsumura**, Director of the Japan-based *CBA International,* the country was hit by blizzards. Mr. Matsumura left the terminal building to board an airport bus at 8.40 a.m., and saw a brilliant pink-coloured object, double-cored in the centre, travelling slowly from the right and apparently above the runway. He aimed his camera at the object and made a number of exposures. Our cover illustration is derived from the best of his photographs. The object was the apparent size of a basketball, and was observed by seven aviation and military personnel, by the bus driver, ground hostesses and some 50 passengers.

In a letter to Miss Eileen Buckle, Mr. Matsumura revealed that he is an aerospace journalist, and a freelance photographer. He has seven cameras of various kinds, and telephoto lenses up to 1000 mm. Wherever he goes he takes a top-quality camera with him, loaded and ready, and he is always on the lookout for anything unusual to snap. (Camera used at Sofia: Canon FTb, FD 50 mms, f1.4 S.S.c. lens with skylight filter, dia. f8, shutter 1/125. Kodacolor X film, ASA 80).

TWENTY YEARS OLD

Charles Bowen

TWENTY years ago, in January 1955, *Flying Saucer Review* first saw the light of day. A small issue – it was a quarterly, and that for the only time in the magazine's existence – appeared under the editorship of Derek Dempster. The issue in which this article appears therefore marks the completion of twenty years of publishing.

A little over ten years ago Waveney Girvan, who was then Editor, was battling against the onset of the vicious illness that was to end his life a few weeks later on October 22, 1964). Nevertheless he managed to write a piece for inclusion in Volume 10, No.6 (November-December 1964), entitled *Ten Years Old*. He had already put together the Editorial leader for that issue, so his article was almost certainly the last thing he wrote for the magazine, in the foundation of which he had been a guiding light, and which he edited with distinction for five years from September 1959. Editing skill and literary ability of the highest order together with charm, and a biting wit, were his strengths, but he also needed all his business skill and doggedness, for during much of his term – the period 1960 to 1963 to be precise – he guided the *Review* through what Vallée has called the "Dark Ages of Ufology."

This seems an appropriate moment to quote from two paragraphs of Waveney Girvan's *Ten Years Old:*

> "To have survived ten years of publishing in an era of adverse economics and without subsidy or patronage of any sort would normally be regarded as an achievement for a small magazine dealing with any other interest, but as flying saucers are generally believed to lack both existence and significance, the achievement should appear much greater to the sceptic than to the believer. But the *Review* will not look forward with any confidence to a general acclaim and wishes for a happy birthday. The occasion will no doubt be allowed to pass with customary silence – customary, that is, to all who know the truth about the saucers and who patiently await the day when the subject can be intelligently and fearlessly discussed in the columns of the national press. That day is not yet with us.
>
> "The *Review* can look back on its particular decade with mixed feelings (one of which, of course, is gratitude born of survival) upon a unique publishing experience. It is impossible to think of any other topic that would have brought a publisher similar problems. To begin with, as officially there is no such subject, strictly speaking the *Review* should never have been able to start, let alone pass its tenth milestone."

In some senses one could substitute the words *twenty* and *twentieth* for the words *ten* and *tenth* in the quoted paragraphs, for some part of it would still apply today. But only some small part, and any such easy substitution would convey a picture of the general situation that is far from the truth.

Certainly there will be those in the big battalions who will always be convinced that "flying saucers... lack both existence and significance," and there are those in both government and media who will go to any lengths to convince the public that this is the case. In this context, for example, we should never forget Low's notorious "Trick" memorandum sent to the University of Colorado where the U.S. Air Force investigation (the Condon Committee), of which he was Project Co-ordinator, was to be based...

> "...*Our study would be conducted almost exclusively by non-believers who, although they couldn't possibly* prove *a negative result, could and probably would add an impressive body of evidence that there is no reality to the observations. The trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear a totally objective study but, to the scientific community would present the image of a group of non-believers trying their best to be objective, but having an almost* zero *expectation of finding a saucer. One way to do this would be to stress investigation, not of the physical phenomena, but rather of the people who do the observing – the psychology and sociology of persons and groups who report seeing UFOs. If the emphasis were put here rather than on examination of the old question of the physical reality of the saucer, I think the scientific community would quickly get the message. I'm inclined to feel...if we set up the thing right...we could carry off the job to our benefit.*"

(A file copy of this memo was seen by two members of the committee, and they were so disturbed by it that they communicated the contents to Dr. James E. McDonald at Arizona University. A row followed, and the two members, Drs. Saunders and Levine were sacked.)*

The outcome was inevitable. In January 1969, at a price of $500,000 paid by the U.S. Air Force, the late Dr. Edward U. Condon and his team seemed to confirm officially that UFOs do not exist. (In fact Dr. Condon only *implied* that they do not exist: among the things he wrote in his conclusions,

* See John G. Fuller's article in *Look* magazine (May 15, 1968), as reported in FSR Vol. 14, No. 3 (May-June 1968).

with which he opened the 900 page Bantam Books version of the report – so effectively dissuading many members of the media from reading any further – were "...Careful consideration of the record as it is available to us leads us to conclude that further extensive study of UFOs probably cannot be justified in the expectation that science will be advanced thereby." Which he could still write even when his report contained a very high proportion of inexplicable and puzzling incidents in the case histories to be found in its pages.)

However, almost as soon as the Condon Report was published, and the U.S. Air Force had achieved what surely must have been its aim, namely of being relieved of the responsibility of logging and explaining the troublesome UFO phenomenon, the report was out-of-date. For people all around the world continued to report seeing UFOs in the skies, close to the ground, on the ground, often with occupants inside and/or outside the 'craft,' and sometimes leaving marks on the ground. The wholesome fact being that generally people did not succumb to being brainwashed. Some bought the Bantam paperback version of the Condon Report *Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects*, but millions didn't. (In the United States this publication was remaindered at a giveaway price quite early in its career, and in my collection of books I have one of these copies, sent to me by the late Dr. James McDonald – a copy distinguished from the other one I possess by having had its front cover torn off prior to sale!)

The foregoing is typical of the rearguard actions fought by the powers-that-be against any advance of the truth about the UFO phenomenon. I hope older readers will recognize the need to make these quotations from the past: there is now a new generation of readers who may not know of these things.

Despite the various attempts to hoodwink the public in recent years, the situation now is far removed from what it was ten long years ago. Whereas Waveney Girvan and his contemporary workers and researchers were hanging on tooth and nail, it is usually the "knockers" who find themselves in that position nowadays. Whatever they say, whatever gems of ridicule escape from their lips, the phenomenon continues as though oblivious to their efforts to deny it.

Changing atmosphere

The change in atmosphere was already detectable before Waveney Girvan died. The translating work of Gordon Creighton, and the valued assistance of researchers Oscar Galindez, Nigel Rimes and Walter Buhler revealed that the "Dark Ages" of the early sixties were nowhere as dark as had been imagined, because there had been vast waves of reports in South America during the period 1962 – 1964. Then the 1964 wave burst on the world, with cases like Socorro+ and Newark Valley** occurring on the same day, April 24, 1964.

The 1964 wave merged into the great global wave of 1965, and by 1966 we were treated to the spectacle of a Hearing on Unidentified Flying Objects by the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, at Washington D.C. Later that year the Condon Committee was set up, with its "trick" philosophy to guide it, and while that body was still deliberating, the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science and Astronautics held a Symposium on UFOs in July 1968. The Condon Committee's investigations are now seen to have been something of a façade, but they did at least reveal to the world some details of the hitherto secret Lakenheath USAF/RAF radar-visual incidents, and did admit the unsolvability of certain cases like, for example, the McMinnville sightings and photographs. And while the U.S. Air Force investigation group, Project Blue Book, was – as a result of Condon's deliberations – being dissolved by a grateful Air Force, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) devoted part of its Christmas 1969 Meeting to papers on the subject. Shortly after that the influential American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) became involved with UFO reports, a process which we expect to see develop interestingly in January 1975, at Pasadena, when the Association meets under the chairmanship of Dr. Joachim Kuettner, and when Drs. Poher and Vallée are giving a paper on an aspect of the UFO phenomenon.

Meanwhile, having achieved emancipation thanks to his enforced release from his consultancy to Project Blue Book, Dr. J. Allen Hynek wrote a valuable book *The UFO Experience*, in which we had glimpses of the chaotic methods at Blue Book, as well as a valuable dissertation on the subject. Dr. Hynek then set about forming his Institute, the Center for UFO Studies, and, as readers will know, officially associated himself with *Flying Saucer Review* in September 1974.

In the second decade of FSR's history there have been other very significant moves which have promoted the growth of respectability of the subject. In France a sane and traditional commonsense had built up from the wise and calm appraisals of the historian of the 1952 and 1954 waves, Aimé Michel, and his friends. But while two groups of amateur investigators, the Groupement d'Etudes de Phénomènes Aeriennes (GEPA), guided by R. Fouéré, and Lumières dans la Nuit (LDLN), under the direction of R. Veillith and F. Lagarde, have been quietly and unsensationally active over the years, it was the effect of the massive 1973-74 wave of reports that suddenly broadened the horizons of ufology in France, and the world. Not surprisingly the wave lapped over into Spain and Italy, and it was the remarkable radar-visual case at Caselle Airport, Turin, that excited the attention of Jean-Claude Bourret of Radio *France-Inter*, and led to the series of 39 radio programmes.

\+ See, for example, the contribution of W.T. Powers to *The Humanoids*.

** See B.E. Schwarz: "Gary Wilcox and the Ufonauts" in FSR Special Issue No. 3, *UFO Percipients*.

In one of J-C. Bourret's programmes, on February 21, 1974, the French Ministre des Armées (the equivalent of our Minister of Defence), M. Robert Galley, gave an interview. He admitted official interest in the subject since the great wave of 1954 and spoke of the sheer massiveness of the phenomenon and the volume of reporting of it. He spoke of puzzling radar cases, of the collaboration of the Gendarmerie in gathering information, of the passing of old information to GEPA, and of the channelling of all information to Dr. Claude Poher of the Centre Nationale d'Etudes Spatiales at Toulouse.

So, all in all, our second ten years have witnessed steady but significant changes in the situation since the last days of Waveney Girvan when the future still seemed somewhat bleak. Needless to say the situation does not appear to have changed over much in Britain, but at least we were treated to a small but excellent item in *Nature* on the subject of Dr. Hynek's Center,†† and a number of young scientists are known to be tremendously interested in paranormal events, including UFOs, and I suppose it is only a matter of time before they replace the old traditionalists as they fade away.

FSR publications

Flying Saucer Review benefitted from the escalating interest which accompanied the waves of the middle sixties. Circulation slowly climbed away from the miserable level to which it had sunk during the "Dark Ages" but, however hard we have tried, it has never reached "take off point." Always something happens to dampen our progress. Like the postal strike of 1971, or the industrial troubles and paper shortage of more recent memory.

The Review's biggest success was *The Humanoids*, the first of the Special Issues, which began its career in October 1966. The idea for this venture was suggested originally by Jacques Vallée, and as we printed and sold 4000 copies of our own first version — which has also appeared in a Spanish hard-cover edition — and as the augmented version has so far appeared as a hard-cover edition in Britain (Neville Spearman Ltd.) and the U.S.A. (Henry Regnery Co.), and in paperback versions in Britain and France (under the title *En Quête des Humanoïds*) our finances were put on a sound footing.

Succeeding Special Issues (2–5 inclusive) have all done well without achieving the same impact as *The Humanoids.*

Support for *Flying Saucer Review* built up unspectacularly until 1970, and remained at a reasonable level until the unfortunate postal strike of 1971, which was but a prelude to the ensuing troubles of 1973 and 1974. Consequently it was unfortunate that we chose to embark on our series of supplements, *FSR Case Histories*, at the tail-end of 1970. This venture was never supported to the same degree as the main magazine. It was just about paying its way when FSR Publications Ltd. became involved in the massive delays brought about by first having to change our printer, and secondly, going to a newly started firm which was immediately put flat on its back by the effect of strikes, power shortages, paper shortages and three-day-weeks. With our tiny spare-time-only staff *FSR Case Histories* became too much of a burden. There were also rapidly rising costs, and a prospect of financial loss, so, after a valiant try, which ran for 18 numbers, we were forced to suspend publication of the supplements. There are still substantial stocks remaining of most of the numbers (only 1 and 2 are out-of-print), so it would do FSR a good turn if those readers who do not know the supplements were to acquire sets. A wealth of valuable and interesting material is to be found in their pages.

The problem of advertising

Our attempts to advertise, where we could afford to do so, in journals and the press, have never met with great success. The general public is still not deeply interested in our subject. There are those who think we should embark on public advertising (e.g. "train spots") and the absence of this is usually regretted whenever something happens, like a big newspaper article which uses our material but fails to quote us or to say how FSR can be obtained. The difficulty, however, is knowing when to have advertisements in the right place at the right time, or to be able to afford permanent and wide cover — or even to know whether such advertisements would be accepted.

The need is to find a way to attract the small minority who *need* to find us. As it would sound the death knell of FSR if we tried to sell the magazine on a sale-or-return basis on the bookstalls‡. I feel that our best hope of doing this lies in our address being given in books where there are quotations and ideas from our magazines.

Again, we rely very much on word-of-mouth recommendations by our readers, and I take this opportunity of thanking all those who have supported us in this way.

The future

While we expect to push our production schedules back to somewhere nearer normal, perhaps by early 1976, it is impossible to make promises at this time about going monthly, or resuming publication of *FSR Case Histories:* there are too many other problems to overcome at this stage. What we would like to do, if humanly possible, is to reduce our price. That, however, would require a growth to at least double the present size of our subscription list.

At present it is difficult to see how such growth can be achieved with our present set-up. Now and again we receive letters of complaint from readers

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†† See "A Major Breakthrough" in FSR Vol.20, No.3, with reference to *Nature*, Vol.251, No.5474 of Oct. 4, 1974.

‡ One nationwide chain of stalls and shops said they would be prepared to take only 3000 copies, provided we halved our cover price, and agreed to repurchase unsold copies (in an unsaleable condition, we know, because it has happened to us in our dealings with other, smaller concerns).

who feel they are entitled to a better service, with magazines coming out regularly, and on time, from our big organisation and plush offices. Naturally we agree that they are entitled to such service, and we apologize that there have been some hold-ups in recent months. What those readers do not realise is that FSR is produced by devoted people who, over the years, have mostly worked voluntarily and for nothing in their spare time, and frequently in arduous conditions. There is so much that requires to be done, and so little time to do it that, for example, the Editorial leader for this issue was sketched out while I was standing in the luggage van of a crowded commuter train on my daily 25-mile journey to work in London. And that goes also for much of this article, except that for large parts of it I managed to get a seat! Not that there is anything unusual about editing in the train: I caught the habit from Waveney Girvan (although I never saw him doing creative writing, but only proof reading, manuscript correcting, or discussing ideas with me) and I've seen many other people correcting galley proofs too. So much for plush offices.

My only regret is that we cannot possibly enter into much in the way of correspondence. The choice lies between chatty letters or FSR: one or the other, not both. The gap between our present position, and a full-time organisation observing all the niceties, seems insurmountable without large-scale backing.

One thing is very much in my mind, and that is to produce limited edition reprints of certain out-of-print issues of *Flying Saucer Review*. Among those very much in demand are, for example, Vol. 15, No.6 (November-December 1969) with Aimé Michel's fabulous study "Palaeolithic UFO-shapes," and also Special Issue No. 3, *UFO Percipients*, and Vol. 17, No. 6 (November-December 1971) each of which contains a part of the study of "Dr. X," again by Aimé Michel. Naturally these would cost more than the current issues because new plates would have to be made, and the printing run would be much smaller than usual. Nevertheless several readers have assured me they would be quite happy to pay more for those issues which are of special interest, or which they need to fill gaps in their collections.

Now, as the *Review* closes its twentieth year of publication, I would like to thank all those who devote so much of their precious time to help keep the wheels turning: Assistant Editor Eileen Buckle, right-hand man and "electronic interpreter" Gordon Creighton, Mrs. E. Spencer, who still answers the telephone for us, Mrs. Enid Guinness who distributes the magazine so efficiently, Mrs. Jo Hugill who helps with new enquiries, and Tim Good who helps with some correspondence when his musical career with the LSO affords him some spare time. I am grateful too for all the scores of clippings of news items that are sent in, and the reports sometimes collected from friends and neighbours; not all are published for we just do not have space, but please continue to send them!

Once more I would like to thank all our readers for the loyal and continuing support that has enabled us to reach this milestone.

London, December 30, 1974

IMPORTANT BUFORA NOTICE

THE BUFORA NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONS CONFERENCE

To be held at the GRAND HOTEL, STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFS

Saturday May 10, 1975, at 2.0 p.m., until Sunday, May 11, at 4.0 p.m.

Speakers on Saturday will include:
Professor John Taylor of King's College, London
Leonard G. Cramp
Dr. Joachim Kuettner (Chairman this year of the AIAA)
Tim O'Brien

On Sunday, speakers will include:
Martin Janta-Polczynski, or SOBEPS
Trevor Whittaker

For details send S.A.E. to the Chairman: Roger Stanway, Old Brook Cottage, White Cross, Haughton, Staffs.

PERSONAL COLUMN

£0.25 per line or part: £1.00 for 4 lines and so on.

WARMINSTER skywatch caravan available until October. Details from Mrs. M. Carey, 61, Corton, Nr. Warminster, Wilts. (s.a.e. essential).

LARGE SEMI-DETACHED older style house, 5 minutes station and new town centre. £14,000 or offer. Write to: A. West, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex RH15 9ST or 'phone Burgess Hill 6738 (STD code 044 46).

UFO MATERIAL for trade. I have many UFO photos, slides, clippings, books and tapes to trade for similar. Not for sale – just trading. Write: Ron Smotek, 5625 Thomas St., Maple Hts., Ohio 44137, USA.

NORTH ESSEX/SUFFOLK. Advertiser interested in UFO and all associated phenomena seeks to contact others in the same area.Tel. Mike Stuttle, Clare 295 (evenings).

WANTED: FSR Special Issue No.2, "Beyond Condon." Good condition preferred. State price. D. Smith, 7 Broadhead Road, Deepcar, Sheffield, S30 5PL.

DON'T FORGET

Tell your friends about FLYING SAUCER REVIEW
By general acclaim the best in the World!

THE MYSTERIOUS "UMMO" AFFAIR. We regret we have been unable to publish Part 3 in this issue, and it has been held over for the next issue of FSR.

A BRIEF TASTE OF FAIRYLAND

F. W. Holiday

MANY people have inquired how the suggestion that the Loch Ness monster and UFOs are part of the same phenomenon can be justified. One such is Stuart Campbell, Investigations Co-ordinator for the UFO Research Society of Edinburgh University. This article results from my attempts to answer Mr. Campbell's objections although I'm afraid it supplies none of the hard evidence he properly desires.

In 1973 a Mr. and Mrs. R. Jenkyns relinquished control of a large farming estate in the south of England and bought a house in which to retire on the shores of Loch Ness. This house stands in several acres of heavily-wooded grounds only a few feet above loch-level and commands a superb view across Ness. The Jenkyns are passionate animal lovers – Dick Jenkyns in fact is a director of the R.S.P.C.A. – and several small happy dogs roam their rooms and grounds. Both the Jenkyns are intelligent, cultured people with a rapport for all wildlife. Their interest in the so-called monster was minimal until November, 1973.

Below the wide frontage of garden lies a rocky beach overgrown with old trees. On the morning in question Mr. Jenkyns went to start a tractor near these trees in order to shift some forestry debris from the far side of the lawn. What happened then is described in an account given to Nick Witchell soon afterwards:

"The date was Saturday, November 10 and the time 11.45 a.m. The weather was stormy with a strong north-westerly wind and two foot waves on the loch. I was on the bank about 10 yards from the shore and 20 feet above it.

"I had just started the tractor with a loud bang when almost immediately I heard a very loud splash as if someone had gone in from the high board very flat. I got off the tractor and went to look at the loch but could see nothing. A few moments later I glanced out again and there, nicely framed by a curved overhanging bough about 10 to 15 yards out, was a fish-like object (at first) starting to appear quite slowly and steadily until it was about 18 inches above the water-surface and then, a moment later, it came up about another two feet.

"Now, for the first time, I realized that I had seen the beastie and I became rather bewildered. I could literally feel the hair on the back of my neck tingling.

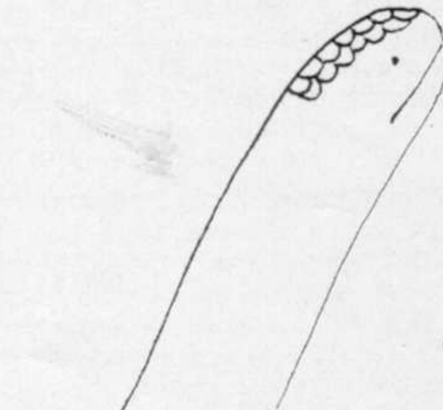
"Its colour was black or browny-grey. Texture neither rough nor smooth or shiny; matt is the best word I can think of. Diameter about 9 inches; no fins or gills. There appeared to be very large scales on the head but this was only an impression. There was a great gash of a mouth at least 9 inches long and tight shut and above the centre of the mouth what may have been a small black eye or a blow-hole. The general appearance was that of a tube, slightly rounded at the top with the head profile rather like that of a snake. It moved forward for several yards and then sank."

This tubular structure or neck seems a good example of a phenomenon which Keightley in his *Fairy Mythology*[2] classifies as 'The Necks, Mermen and Mermaids' as the fourth component of Scandinavian fairy lore. It was supposed to have affinities to the trolls, hobgoblins and kobbolds. William A. Craigie in his *Scandinavian Folklore* (1896)[3] says that the Nok or Neck is a water-troll which can assume the shape of a half-boat. Mr. Jenkyns made this error in his second sighting.

The Jenkyns' second sighting of the monster will be considered later with respect to UFO phenomena. In order to present the total matrix in which these events occur it is necessary to describe an incident which happened when I was helping Dr. Donald Omand to exorcise the loch. This exorcism is described in FSR (Sept.–Oct., 1973).

* * * * *

Some reports of UFO phenomena have always seemed to me to be beyond belief. These include sexual intercourse between UFO occupants and humans and the appearance, in a human setting, of supposed UFO agents such as 'Men In Black'. These raise such impossible problems concerning genetics and history it is easier to believe they never happened. This is why I have never described this



Nine inches to one foot thick

Three to four feet long

The "Neck" as seen by Richard Jenkyns

1973 incident before. Looking back it seems illogical and impossible. Yet it did occur.

On a beautiful morning following the exorcism I left the Cary's lower caravan above the loch, passed through a gate, crossed the road and walked over the lawn to the house. After an hour's discussion with Dr. Omand and the Carys I started back to the caravan and then stopped, confronted by a figure standing by the gate leading down to the loch.

It was a man dressed entirely in black. Unlike other walkers who sometimes pause at this corner to admire the view he had his back to the loch and was staring at me fixedly. Indeed, he seemed to be waiting for me to return. We were about 30 yards apart and for a few seconds I simply stared back wondering who on earth this was. At that moment I remember clearly receiving a strong sensation of malevolence, something cold and passionless and possibly threatening although the figure had not moved.

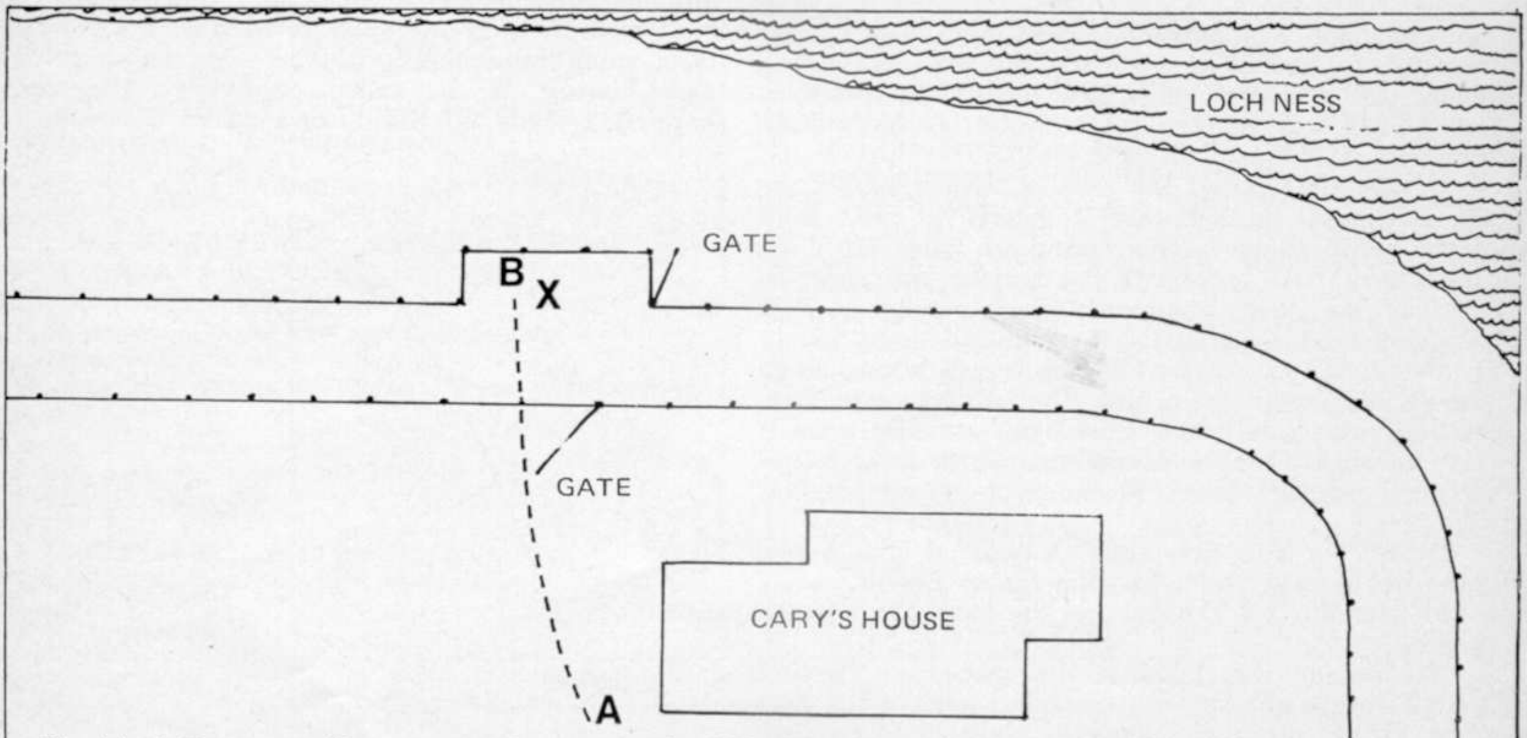
I moved forward warily, never taking my eyes from the shape. He was some six feet tall and appeared to be dressed in black leather or plastic. He wore a helmet, gloves and was masked even to the nose, mouth and chin. The eye region was covered in goggles but, on closer approach, I failed to detect any eyes behind the lenses. The figure remained motionless as I came up except possibly for a slight stirring of the feet. It didn't speak and I could hear no breathing. The whole unexpected episode was most sinister and quite unbelievable. Uncertain what to do and still groping for some commonplace explanation, I walked slowly past him at a range of about a yard and then stopped, looking down on Loch Ness.

I stayed thus for perhaps ten seconds and when I turned it was with the intention of obtaining contact with the being to prove it was in fact a person. This was done almost subconsciously. I had the vague plan of pretending to slip on the grass so that I might lurch against the figure. In any case I intended to speak and elicit a verbal response. But this was not possible. While I was in process of turning my head a slight whispering or whistling sound made me swing around to find the man had gone. He had been only three yards away and could only have gone along the road. When I stepped forward to look there was nothing to be seen in either direction. Half a mile of road was visible to the right and about a hundred yards to the left. No normal person could possibly have scaled the roadside fences in the time available.

This incident was discussed with no-one. For a time I pretended that I had seen an aberrant motorcyclist although I didn't believe this. There seemed no logic in the incident. If it was supposed to be a warning against further investigation as traditionally delivered by Men In Black then it failed to achieve its purpose because I was at Loch Ness the following year. On the latter occasion however I had been no more than a week on location when I was smitten with a coronary attack. It may have been no more than coincidence that I was, in fact, carried on a stretcher, en route to hospital, over the exact spot where the black figure had stood.

* * * * *

In the May-June 1973 issue of FSR there appeared a most curious story from South America by Oscar A. Galíndez called *A New Teleportation Near Córdoba.* This fantastic but well-substantiated account describes how two men – a distinguished



The black figure was first seen at the spot marked X when the author was at A. The author finished up at B

scholar and an industrialist – were travelling by car between Balnearia and Córdoba one night when they saw a flash of light in the sky. A little later they encountered a mysterious 'railway coach' parked near the road where no normal coach should have been. Having seen this phenomenon the men drove past it to their destination only to find that their journey had been inexplicably foreshortened and several villages they ought to have passed through did not register in their recollection. That this anomaly was a real effect and not a form of amnesia was shown by the fact that their car used 12½ litres of fuel for a trip which normally takes 25 litres. Moreover there was a temporal anomaly which made it seem that, between departure and arrival, they had travelled at the impossible rate of 185 kilometres an hour.

After meeting the Jenkyns, I brought Dick Jenkyns round to the possibility that the Loch Ness monster may not be what it purports to be – an animal. He readily agreed to keep a sharp lookout from his unique home and make notes of any incident, no matter how apparently trivial. On September 30, 1974, the Jenkyns had a further sighting of the monster. It was below the steep scree known as 'The Horseshoe' and they mistook it for a boat until bringing binoculars. It appeared as a huge bladder-shaped object of some 50 – 60 feet in length. This bladder was rough and possibly warty, and some 10 feet high with a long trailing tail (or neck?).

Dick Jenkyns commented: "I felt that the beast was obscene. This feeling of obscenity still persists and the whole thing put me in mind of a gigantic stomach with a long writhing gut attached."

The reactions of these witnesses during the half hour sighting are interesting.

Mr. Jenkyns relates: "During this sighting/manifestation I certainly did not appear on reflection to have been acting quite normally, as Phyllis said that after some time I sat down on a sofa and went to sleep for a few minutes. Moreover, although we both saw the beast there were slight differences between us. Nevertheless, there was no difficulty in being certain of what we saw. Another point which makes one wonder is that although we had a camera fully-loaded, neither of us thought of using it and neither did we telephone any of our neighbours in spite of the length of the sighting. The camera is not a very powerful one but it might have shown an outline."

Several years ago a physician, Dr. Kenneth MacLeod, M.D., M.Ph., reported a similar reaction while driving his father along Loch Ness.[3] Dr. MacLeod saw the monster from the driver's side of the car but made no mention of it either then or later when they were having tea. On subsequent reflection he thought his own behaviour strange on this score although he couldn't explain it.

One should now consider the reactions of the Córdoba witnesses when confronted with an 'impossible' railway coach and a journey mysteriously telescoped in time and space. The quotations are from Dr. Galíndez' article:

Senor Brunelli woke his wife and daughters to tell them about his pleasant visit to Balnearia but "...at no time did he mention to them (because he did not remember) any of the vicissitudes of the journey with the phenomena of the 'flash,' the 'train' and the inexplicable contraction of the journey."

The other witness, Senor Porchietto, only recalled the amazing events days later when quizzed by his daughter who had by then heard Brunelli's account. "Only then did he describe the phenomena mentioned above."

Again: "Both men told us that they found it utterly incomprehensible that they should have displayed no curiosity about the strange object [the 'train'] " and Senor Brunelli admitted "that on the occasion in question he did not behave as he would normally have done."

The similarity between the subjective reaction of both Scottish and South American witnesses is plain.

* * * * *

A partial or total blocking of the memory is not uncommon in UFO cases. This may be a mechanism of the human mind to prevent it contemplating a paradox which usurps all previously-held beliefs in the causation of phenomena. Most monster-witnesses seek to rationalise – either by denying that such things exist or, if they do exist, that they must be biological specimens. If a sighting destroys both possibilities then the only recourse left to the mind is to shut out the entire episode. We protect our mental integrity at all costs.

Mr. Stuart Campbell and the Edinburgh University UFO Society are entitled to hold a nuts-and-bolts philosophy over the causation of the effects, but I believe this vastly under-states the situation. Although the man in black encountered by me was totally convincing as a solid object even when scrutinized closely at all angles in bright sunshine, it is perhaps significant that I was not allowed to test his solidity. Even more important though is the way our thoughts seem to be monitored so that the phenomenon – whether it be UFO, UFO agent or monster – is never unmasked. This seems to argue that the causative intelligence manipulates space/time so that the encounters are inserted into our stream of experience in impregnable situations. They know how we will act because they appear to already know the outcome.

"The fairyland in which they dwell is ordinarily inaccessible to mortals," says Rolleston. "Yet the invisible barriers may be, and often are, crossed by mortal men." Forestalling John Keel, he adds: "Their strength lies in strategy and illusion."[4]

We stand on a globe of congealed energy posing as a solid object. Uncongealed energies flood this object and we call them electromagnetic fields. This is a world of illusion and counter-illusion credibly pretending to be a machine because its working parts are invisible. We may be out-flanked and out-gunned by these beings which stage nature's riddles, but I don't believe we are out-fought. They too operate within the context of universal law,

and an uninhibited search for truth must show how that context shapes.

References

1 Keightley. *The Fairy Mythology*. London: 1882.

2 W.A. Craigie. *Scandinavian Folklore*. Gardner: London 1896. In William Craigie's book the Nykur, Nok, Neck, Long Horse or Hell Horse, River Horse and Kelpie (= gaelic celpach, a colt) would seem to be synonymous expressions. The creature had magical attributes and was considered dangerous. Like the trolls and wood-elves it was said to belong to the fallen angels.

3 In a letter to the writer describing an incident in July, 1968.

4 T.W. Rolleston. *Myths and Legends of the Celtic Race*. Harrap: London, 1919. Rolleston says the invisible beings first made their appearance in Western Connacht when "they were wafted into the land on a magic cloud." He continues: "They are immortal (with limitations) and they wield mysterious powers of sorcery and enchantment. But no sort of moral governance was ever ascribed to them nor (in Bardic literature) any act of worship paid to them. They were called Danaans, but degenerated into the fairies of popular imagination. The Book of Armagh calls them *dei terreni*, earth gods. (However, see the Translator's notes on p.9 of FSR, March-April, 1973).

BELIEVIING IS SEEING

A question of perception

Janet Bord

IT is encouraging that more people are now beginning to explore some of the erstwhile 'fringe' theories concerning the sources of and meanings behind UFO manifestations. The once generally accepted but unimaginative 'extraterrestrial visitors' idea is now less popular – though like all theories, whatever their degree of acceptability to the researcher, the extraterrestrial possibility should not be completely scrapped but held in abeyance, for it may have some relevance.

Specialists in other fields are now being seen to have an interest in UFOs and allied phenomena, for example Dr. Lyall Watson, biologist and author of the best-selling *Supernature*. His new book *The Romeo Error*, A matter of Life and Death (Hodder and Stoughton, 1974), ranges through such apparently unconnected topics as premature burial and psychic surgery, but he also devotes a few pages to miscellaneous unexplained phenomena, such as the 'Bermuda triangle', the Loch Ness Monster (he considers one of F.W. Holiday's sightings to have been 'set up...by his own unconscious'), and UFOs. Concerning the latter and other 'apparitions', he has some very perceptive comments to make, but unfortunately he doesn't develop his ideas as far as one would like! I will quote the relevant passage:

"Perhaps fairies, dwarfs, elves, leprechauns, dragons, monsters, vampires, werewolves, ghosts, poltergeists and flying saucers all exist. And perhaps the cynics who say that it is all in the mind are also right, because all these things exist or are produced at the second or etheric level.

"The strange behaviour of all apparitions suggests that they obey laws not quite like those of conventional physics, and that they probably belong to a reality with slightly different space-time references. *The fact that those who come closest to these phenomena, usually receive information structured to support their own beliefs or fears, suggests that these apparitions cannot be entirely independent of the minds of those involved.* Taken together, these two suggestions provide the basis for a concept that could account for a great many mysteries. The allocation of all these unexplained odds and ends to the already mysterious area of the mind, does not seem at first sight to be a very productive procedure, but I believe that the discovery of bioplasma and the possibility of its holographic action, made the mind more amenable to investigation than it has ever been before."

The italics above are mine; I find this sentence perhaps the most challenging in Dr. Watson's highly readable book. Many people underestimate the part played by our minds in all our activities; the mind's capabilities are staggering. My own sporadic studies of various aspects of psychic and other inexplicable phenomena have suggested to me ever more strongly in recent months that the mind is responsible for many of the phenomena which are currently attributed to outside agencies. Telepathy is now widely accepted, but many people still refuse to credit the mind with responsibility for the formation of apparitions, poltergeists, and the performance of psychokinesis and Uri Geller-type feats. I believe the mind is also capable of inventing ostensibly separate personalities such as are contacted through the ouija board, through mediums, through automatic writing, through hypnotic regression to so-called other incarnations, and through tape recordings of the kind received by Raudive.

I am not saying that the mind of the experimenter or percipient is always *solely* responsible for what results. But those readers who have agreed with me this far will find it logical to apply Dr. Watson's comments on the mind to UFO research. This field needs much more active participation by those trained in the study of the workings of the human

mind, and more studies of contactees should be made from a psychological point of view.

John Keel has already done some work on the similarity between the traditional 'ghost' and the apparently solid UFO (which may in fact be an apparition of some kind). He consulted a list of criteria for the 'perfect' ghost given in G.N.M. Tyrrell's *Apparitions* (Gerald Duckworth & Co. Ltd, 1953) and considered whether UFO sightings qualify. This line of enquiry is again fruitful, but I doubt if the traditional ghost can be equated fully with UFO manifestations, because the two exhibit different features. For example, however solid a ghost may appear (and they usually do look very solid, often being mistaken for living people until they do something no living person would or could do, such as walk through a wall), it cannot be touched. Usually, if the observer were to stretch out his hand to touch it, it would always appear to be beyond his reach. There are probably a few exceptions to this statement (there are always exceptions to everything!), and in cases where a ghost has been touched, the sense of touch is being hallucinated as well as the sense of sight, but as a general rule ghosts are not able to be touched.

The same law, however, does not seem to apply to UFO 'ghosts'. There are on record cases where witnesses have been warned by UFO entities not to touch the craft, and this is usually thought to be because of radiation or other dangers, but may it be because to attempt to do so would indicate to the witness that the craft is an hallucination? But what of the numerous cases where people are invited inside craft, and there touch various objects, are touched by the crafts' occupants, and also converse with them (it is very rare that a 'normal' ghost talks)? Obviously these experiences, if hallucinatory, are far more intense than ordinary ghost sightings, with all the senses co-operating in the hallucination. It seems likely that this type of apparition, if apparitions they be, obey different laws from the more well-known ghost-type of apparition.

These are only sketchy thoughts; I have not researched any case details to try to confirm or deny any of the ideas suggested here. But I feel it is an avenue worth further exploration.

Also related to the topics of the powers of the mind and the apparitional nature of UFOs, is our perception of unexpected and inexplicable events. Are we sure that we see what is really there, even in everyday life? Of course we don't, we only perceive objects on a narrow waveband; in fact our sight is very limited. This limitation poses problems for those observing UFOs and their occupants. Are UFO witnesses seeing what is really there, or are their minds restructuring the unprecedented visual impressions to make them acceptable to their mental capacities?

J. Allen Hynek, in *The UFO Experience* (Abelard-Schuman Ltd, 1972), comments on this aspect of UFO witnessing and reporting, and his experience has been that "...the reporters of the UFO experience try their best to describe and explain their experience in conventional terms. They almost always attempt to find – even force upon the lack of fact, if necessary – a natural explanation. In direct contradiction to what we are often told, that people 'see what they wish to see,' my work with UFO reporters of high calibre indicate *[sic]* that they wish to see or to explain their observations in terms of the familiar."

This suggests conscious striving to make the experience explicable; the unconscious is also hard at work on the same task, but only its results are visible to the witness in what he actually thinks he sees – he has no idea that he is not seeing what is actually there! I am no specialist in the workings of the human mind, conscious or unconscious, but if the minds of the witnesses *are* causing the incoming impressions to conform to accepted criteria, this underlines again the importance of investigating the *whole* witness, not just his own interpretation of what he thinks he saw, and from a psychoanalytical viewpoint; it also emphasises the difficulties in UFO research if all the data is subject to varying degrees of change at the whims of the witnesses' unconscious minds!

If the possibility of faulty perception is accepted, it could provide more support for the belief that certain happenings described in the past as visits by 'fairies' could in fact be examples of what we today call UFO contacts. The following case fits into this category. It comes from the book *The Peat-Fire Flame,* Folk-Tales and Traditions of the Highlands and Islands, by Alasdair Alpin MacGregor (The Ettrick Press Ltd, 1937).

The events took place about 1912 or maybe a few years earlier, on the Island of Muck in the Inner Hebrides, off the west coast of Scotland. Two boys aged 10 and 7 were beachcombing one Friday morning, and in a cove they found a tin. The author continues:

"On commencing to strike it open with a big stone, lo! two tiny boys with green vests appeared beside them, and inquired of them in excellent English what they were trying to do. They replied that they were endeavouring to break open the tin, which they believed to contain paint. Evidently Sandy MacDonald's lads were 'under spell.' They were simply 'charmed' by the little fellows in the green vests, who questioned them regarding their home and their family, and who also could speak the Gaelic.

"Then the lads perceived that, lying alongside the little cove, was a tiny boat with a beautiful cabin aft. In the doorway of the cabin stood a wee woman. By her side barked a fully-grown dog, about the size of a rat. MacDonald's boys also noticed that the cabin contained a number of pots and pans and other kitchen utensils.

"Said the little woman, charmingly attired in green raiment, to the lads – 'Come into the cabin and have your tea with us before you go home.' However, the lads were loth to step aboard the faery boat; and so the little woman handed out to them a few loaves of faery bread, each about the size of a walnut. These they ate, and enjoyed.

"Then said the little green boys to MacDonald's lads: 'We are departing now. When you see our boat out at the Dubh Sgeir (a certain black rock out

a little from the shore), you must return home. We will not be coming back here any more; but others of our race will be coming.'

"Not long after the faery boat had left the shore, Sandy MacDonald's daughter came on the scene, while looking for her young brothers. Suddenly she noticed them sitting on a rock by the shore, gazing out to sea – gazing presumably at the faery boat, which appeared to be steering for Ireland.

" 'What are you doing here?' she shouted. The sound of her voice broke the spell that the faeries had put on the lads; and immediately they went home with their sister. While 'under spell' they had been 'awfully happy,' to use their own words: now they trembled with a strange fear."

These boys, familiar only with the islands' life and lore, would naturally recognise their visitors as fairies, whose presence was generally accepted in the Gaelic-speaking lands, but there are several factual similarities between this case and reports of UFO occupants:

1. The tiny people. Sometimes, but not always, UFO occupants are smaller than the human average.
2. 'Green vests' is rather a vague description of their apparel, but it suggests a tight garment, which is what UFO occupants usually wear. Without much searching, I found a UFO case from America where the entity wore green, and I quote from *The Humanoids* (Neville Spearman, 1969, and as a Futura Books paperback, December 1974): "The 'little man' was dressed in a green suit with shiny buttons, with a green tam-o-shanter-like cap..."
3. The 'fairies' could speak Gaelic. There are not many UFO contact reports in which the entities could not speak in whatever language the witness used, however out-of-the-way it might be.
4. The 'faery bread.' In the Joe Simonton case, the witness was given a cookie from a batch which the entities were preparing in their craft.
5. The message: "We will not be coming back here any more; but others of our race will be coming." This does not sound like the fairies talking, if the fairy lore is any guide. But it does resemble the type of phraseology used by some UFO entities, mainly those who appear to have a message for mankind and so endeavour to communicate with humans.
6. The spell cast on the witnesses. It seems from the description that they were under mild hypnosis; and how often have we read UFO reports in which the witnesses have experienced unusual mental states, including happiness and fear?
7. There are other features of this report which give the impression that it was a UFO sighting – the mysterious, apparently sudden, appearance of the entities; their interest in the way of life on the island; the attempt to entice the lads aboard the craft; the instruction to them at departure time, almost like a post-hypnotic suggestion: "When you see our boat out at the Dubh Sgeir...you must return home" – and readers will probably have noticed others which I have missed.

One feature of this case which I have not so far mentioned is the unusual craft. At first sight, if this really was a UFO contact, it does not appear to make sense that the entities were in a boat and not some form of aerial craft. But, on reflection, perhaps it does make sense; it may even support the point I made earlier about perception.

Could it be that the entities, whoever they may be, appear in whatever craft is likely to be acceptable to the witness? Today they usually come in streamlined 'spacecraft,' highly acceptable to technologically-orientated twentieth-century man; at the end of the last century some of them came in airships; perhaps to witnesses unfamiliar with the concept of airborne travel they would appear in boats, especially in such a region as the Inner Hebrides where boats were as familiar to the islanders as cars are to us.

If this is the case, who 'manufactures' the craft? Do 'they' do it, or do the witnesses see types of craft in line with their expectations? In one respect the boat does sound as though it may really have been a UFO – the 'tiny boat with a beautiful cabin aft' brings to mind the conventional UFO shape, with a 'saucer' surmounted by a domed 'cup.' Another point is that UFOs have been seen diving into the sea and emerging out of it, so perhaps they are also able to travel on its surface as does a boat.

I am aware that not everyone will agree with my interpretations of certain features of UFO reports, but I hope I may at least have awakened the interest of someone who is qualified to investigate further the question of perception as it relates to UFO witnesses. In fact, it seems that it is not only our eyes which can be deceived. While I was writing this article I read a letter in the *Journal* of the Society for Psychical Research (December 1974) by Dr. Charles T. Tart of the Department of Psychology, University of California, in which he suggests that our hearing is not as 'objective' as we believe. He says that "...hearing, especially the understanding of words, is an extremely complex process, subject to much distortion, based on our inner moods, needs, and belief systems," and goes on to describe how we can prove this to ourselves. So perhaps some of the 'space' messages we read about have been unwittingly distorted en route!

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THE VILVORDE HUMANOID

Jean-Luc Vertongen

Translation by Gordon Creighton, from Inforespace No. 18 (1974), Journal of SOBEPS (Societé Belge d'Etude des Phénomènes Spatiaux)

THIS Belgian case, which has been very thoroughly investigated, occurred at Vilvorde, an industrial town in Flanders, some 12 km. to the N.N.E. of Brussels.

The eyewitness made the sighting from the ground floor of his home, a modest house facing on to the street and surrounded by dividing walls. Behind the house lies a small garden measuring about 75 sq. metres and with three high whitewashed walls. Beyond the back wall there is a large property owned by a convent of the Ursuline Sisters. The witness has asked that his identity be kept confidential.

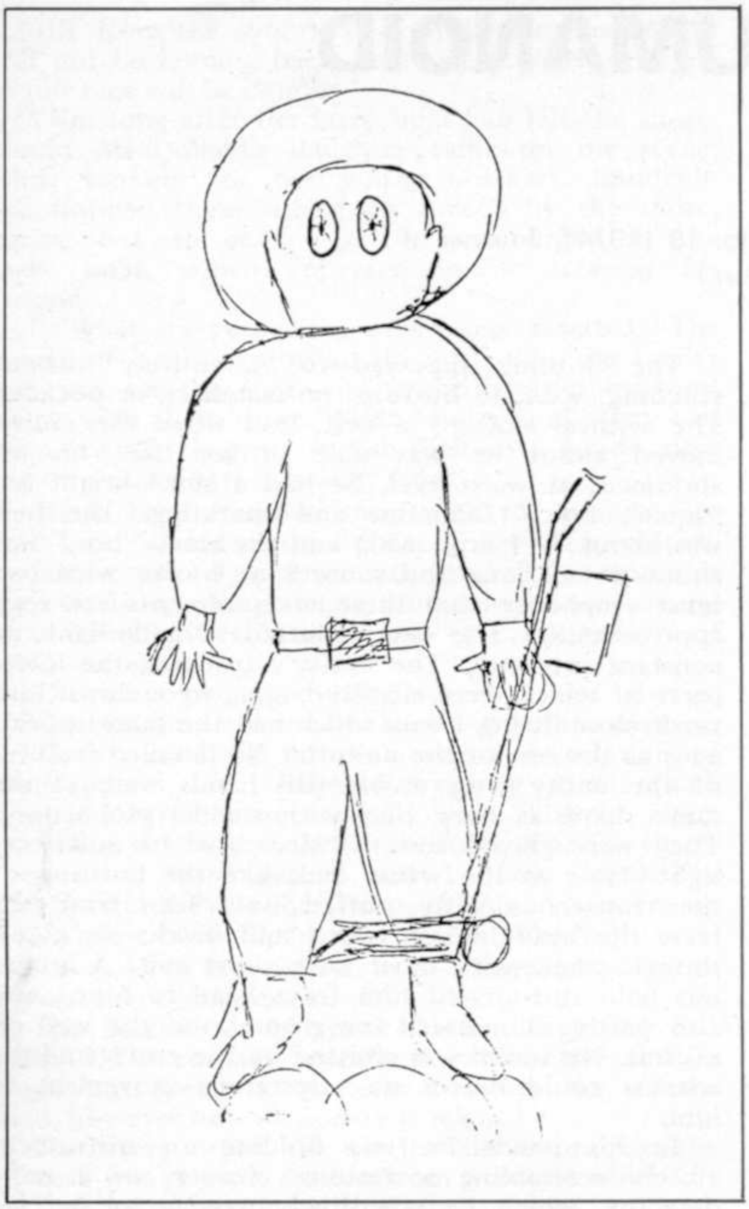
The sighting was in mid-December of 1973 and has been under thorough investigation by SOBEPS since that date. The happening came only a few days after an interesting near-landing case at Boondael already reported in *Inforespace* No. 14 (pp. 43–46).[1] The weather was very cold at the time, though there was no longer any snow, and a strong wind was blowing over the region.

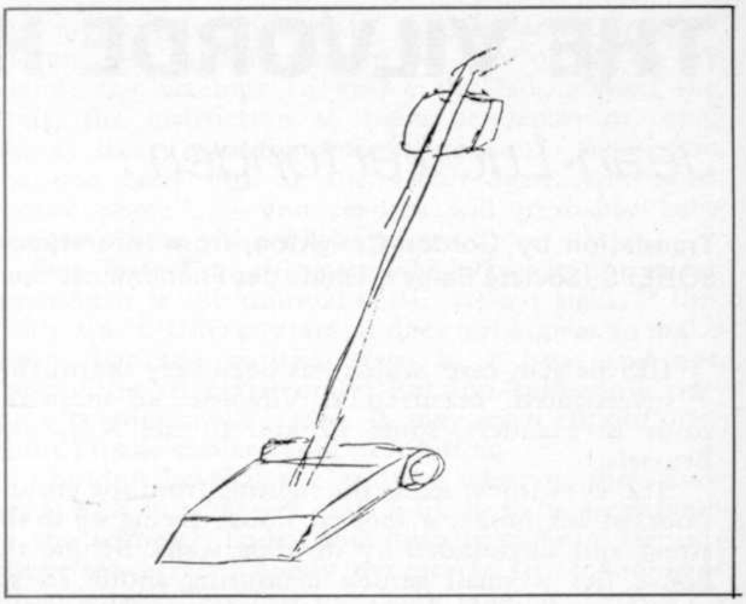
The witness, Monsieur "V.M.", was aged 28 at the time. He and his wife were in bed and asleep. At 2.00 a.m. he arose to go to the toilet, which is in a small outer yard adjoining the kitchen. In order not to disturb his wife he made his way in the dark, using a hand-torch. Reaching the kitchen, he heard, coming from the outside, a sound like that of a shovel striking the ground, and, filtering in through the gap at the left-hand side of the kitchen window curtain, he perceived a greenish light. He compares it with the diffused glow of an aquarium-light. Knowing that his garden would normally be plunged in total darkness at such an hour, and puzzled by the noise, he went to the window and parted the curtain, to behold an astonishing sight. At the other end of the little garden there was a small being about 1 m. 10 cm in height and wearing a shining one-piece suit emitting a greenish luminosity. The entity's back was towards him in three-quarter profile. He was of medium build, and his head, arms and legs normal in appearance. His green uniform was very bright and sparkling and the witness compared it with the material of the upholstery of certain "buggy" types of cars (polyester tinged with metallic particles). The entity's head was protected by a transparent globular helmet, and from the rear of it a tube led down to join a sort of rectangular "haversack" on his back. The "haversack" covered his back roughly from the waist upwards to the level of the shoulderblades – should indeed a humanoid possess such things as shoulderblades. All this apparatus was of exactly the same appearance as the rest of the uniform.

The clothing appeared to be entirely without stitching, with no buttons, no fasteners, or pockets. The witness noticed a belt, and when the entity moved about he was able to see that, on his abdomen, at waist-level, he had a small bright red "square box," luminous and sparkling. The belt was about 3–4 cm. wide and the small "box" was about 8 cm. long and some 3 or 4 cm. wide (we must emphasise that these measurements are very approximate). The box emitted a red light of constant intensity. The entity's trousers, the lower parts of which were slightly baggy, were thrust into small close-fitting boots which had the same appearance as the rest of the uniform. No detailed features of the entity were visible. His hands were of the same shape as ours, but with smaller proportions. They were gloved and the sleeves of his suit were tight-fitting at the wrists and, like the bottoms of the trousers, slightly puffed out. Seen from the rear, the head looked round and black, and V.M. thought the entity must have short hair. A luminous halo surrounded him from head to foot, and also partly illuminated the ground and the wall on his left. No sound was emitted by the entity and the witness could detect no respiratory movement in him.

In his hands he was holding an instrument closely resembling a vacuum cleaner, or a mine detector, which he was slowly passing to and fro over a heap of brick-bats that the witness had gathered together at the bottom of the garden a few days previously. The instrument had a long shaft bent at one end to form a handle, with a small rectangular box below the handle. The "detector" itself consisted of a thick rectangular plate with the frontal edge levelled. The other side, to the rear, consisted of a cylinder with about the same diameter as the thickness of the plate. The shaft was connected to the instrument between these two areas. In colour the instrument was identical with the humanoid's uniform. Witness detected no sound or light emission from it.

The witness noticed that the small personage seemed to have difficulty in getting about. He moved slowly, with a waddle, and bending his knees slightly. His gait seemed particularly heavy. It was at this point that V.M. made use of his torch, flashing it twice towards the end of the garden. Thereupon the humanoid turned round, and it seemed as though his neck must not be movable. for he did not simply turn his head but slewed the whole body around. Then, for the first time, the witness caught sight of the dark face of the strange visitor. Neither nose nor mouth were visible. All





Above: The "Detector"
Left: Sketch of the humanoid by the witness

that he could distinguish was a pair of somewhat pointed ears. The eyes, oval and yellow in colour, were particularly large, very bright, and surrounded by a green rim. Upon the iris part of the eyes the witness noticed small black and red veinlets. The pupil was black, and slightly oval. At times lids came down over the eyes and simultaneously the face became completely dark for a few moments. When the eyes were open, these two upper lids were invisible. One might liken them to a kind of black blinds or shutters, which progressively masked the eyes as they descended.

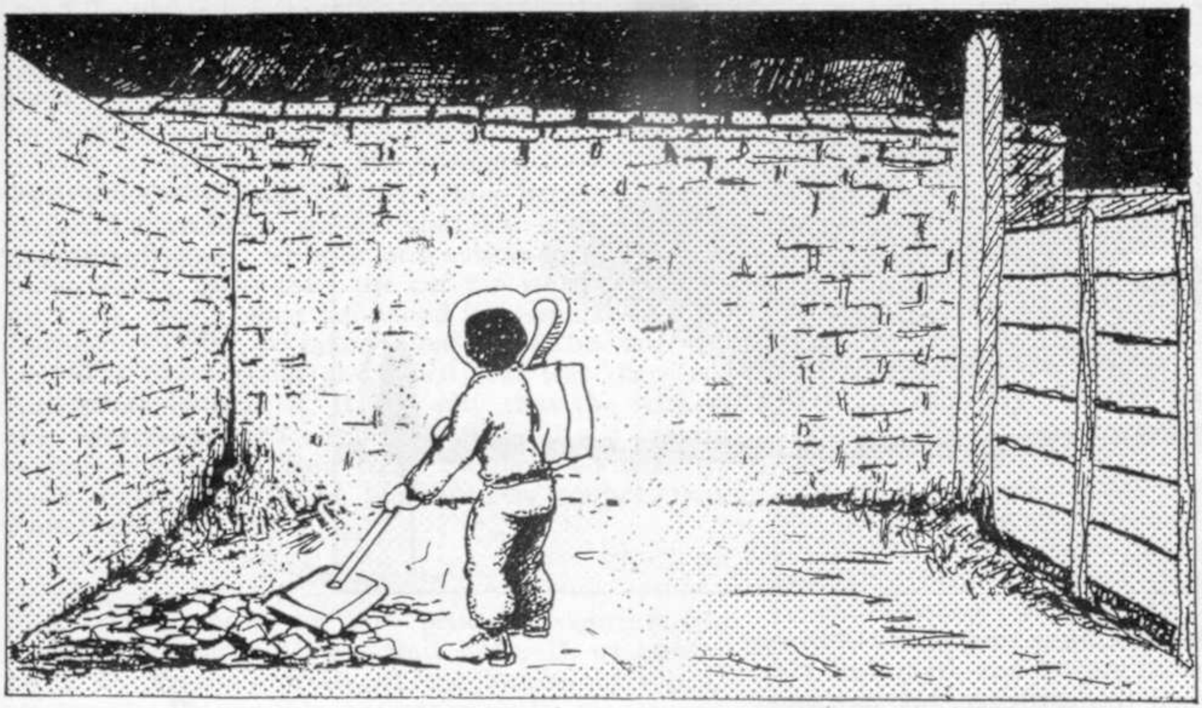
As he now stood there eyeing the witness face-to-face and holding his "detector" in his left hand, the ufonaut seemed to answer the luminous signals from the flashlight by raising his hand and giving the "V" sign with the index and second fingers, after which he turned away again and, with his characteristic gait and gently swinging his arms, walked off towards the back wall.

Arrived at the wall, the creature placed one foot flat against it and then, without any hesitation, did likewise with the second foot and walked straight up the wall with no change of gait except that now he was holding his legs stiff. During this astonishing progression the personage still continued with the same arm movements and continued to hold his instrument in the same position as when he was on the ground. Reaching the top of the wall, which was about 3 metres high, he executed a complete arc of a circle as he became erect again and then swung down and forward to descend the other face of the wall in this same surprising fashion.

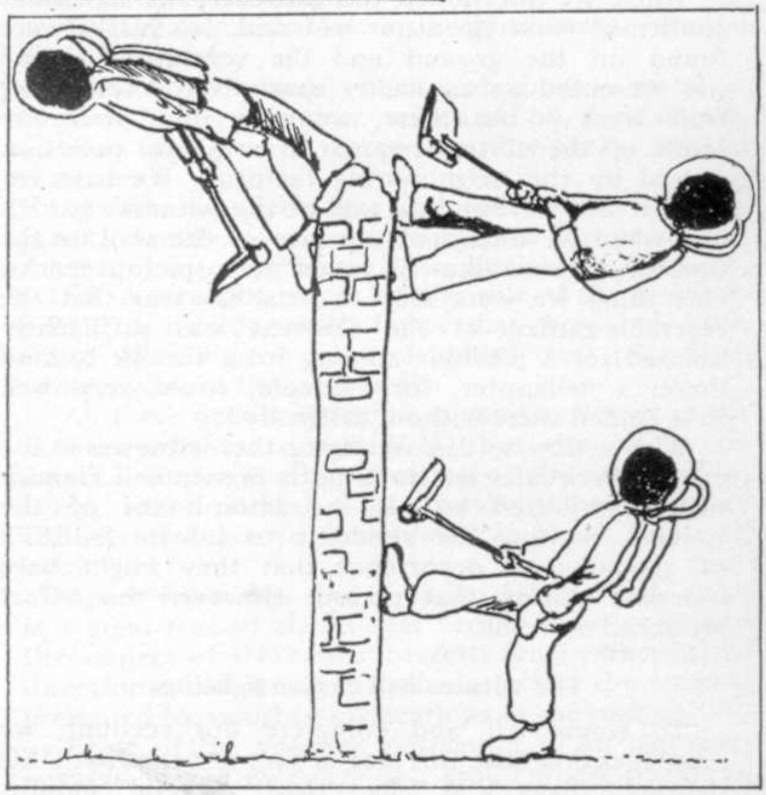
Four minutes or so after this unwonted exploit, a vivid halo of white light appeared beyond the wall and the witness heard a faintly perceptible chirring sound somewhat muffled by the wind. (Let us also bear in mind that throughout the sighting the witness was behind a closed window.) Then, rising very slowly, a round object began to appear, hardly a few metres distant beyond the wall.

After rising a short way, the "machine" halted and remained there stationary for about four minutes, still emitting the same chirring noise comparable to the noise of a cricket rubbing its wing-cases together, and with about the same degree of loudness. The diameter of the object might have been about five metres (this estimate being based on the width of the witness's garden). Its upper half was orange-coloured, phosphorescent, and surmounted in the centre by a transparent cupola emitting a greenish light. The colour of the lower half was a dark claret and on this darker area, showing up very sharply, were three lights disposed horizontally, the one on the left as seen by the witness being blue, the middle one yellow, and the right-hand-side one red. These three lights flashed on three times in sequence.

On the periphery of the machine, the witness noticed what looked like showers of sparks resembling the sparks of a cigarette-lighter. They were located at the juncture between the dark under-part and the bright upper-part of the machine, that is to say, at the part where the craft's circumference



Left:
Artist's reconstruction of the scene when the humanoid was in the garden
Below:
Artist's impression of the entity going over the wall



the humanoid. It must likewise be mentioned that throughout the whole close encounter V.M. received no verbal or "telepathic" message. After the machine had vanished he does not seem to have been greatly shaken by all that he had seen, for he sat down at the kitchen table and prepared himself a light snack, after which he very normally returned to bed and peacefully went off to sleep again. In addition to his wife, a cousin of his was also living in the apartment. During the sighting he thought of calling the cousin, but in the end, we don't know why, he did not do so.

Next morning he arose, as on every other day, without any complaints about headache or any sort of malaise, and in the course of the morning he went out to inspect his garden. He found nothing particular there: seemingly nothing had vanished was greatest. The sparks seemed to be thrown outwards by a rotary movement, although the object did not seem to be rotating on its own axis.

Beneath the transparent dome, V.M. could see the humanoid, bathed in a bluey-green light. No other detail in the cabin was visible to him.

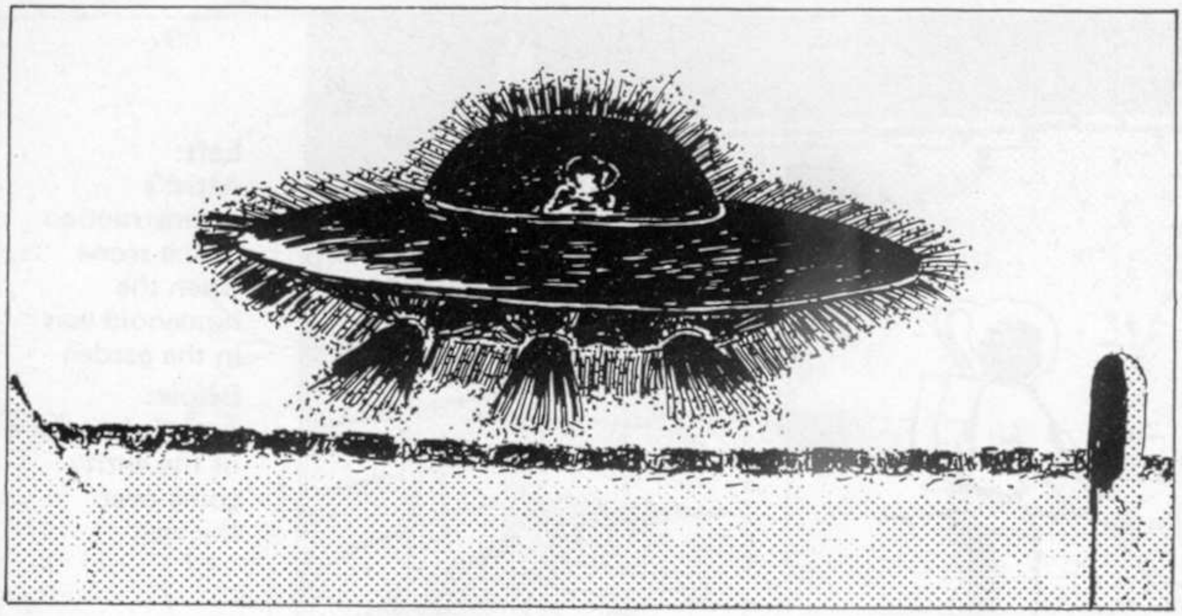
Immediately below the cupola, the witness noticed moreover an emblem outlined upon the orange portion of the craft. It consisted of a black circle traversed diagonally by a yellow lightning flash of a brighter shade than the phosphorescent orange area. (See witness's sketch, Fig. 5.)

The UFO now rose again vertically about twenty metres, still retaining its horizontal position, and began to rock gently to and fro. The showers of sparks were still coming out all around it. Then the chirring sound grew louder and became a sort of hiss, and the craft gathered speed and shot straight up into the sky, leaving behind it a luminous trail. In a few seconds it was no more than a tiny point of light lost among the stars.

At no time during this extraordinary encounter does the witness claim to have felt any fear and he says he experienced no hostile reaction against and he found no impressions on the ground and no marks or scratches on the wall. The humanoid had not even left his footprints...

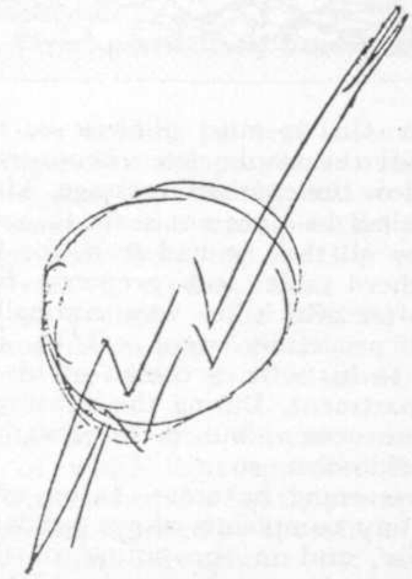
Complementary Reports

This sighting was reported to us by a SOBEPS member, but not immediately, and so our investigation did not get under way until several weeks after the episode. Only in March 1974 were we able to visit the presumed site of the landing. When we went on to the property of the Ursuline Sisters' Convent in the hope of finding evidence there in support of the statements of the witness, the sister who was serving as gate-porter to the establishment said she knew of nothing unusual and had observed



Left:
Artist's impression of the UFO departing beyond the wall

Below:
Sketch of the emblem, by the witness



nothing out of the ordinary on the Convent premises.

When we questioned the gardener, his statement confirmed what the sister had said. No marks were found on the ground and the vegetation at the site presented no anomalies apart from a few dying fruit trees – but these, we were told, were the result of the all-too-frequent atmospheric pollution caused by the neighbouring factories. We have examined the surrounding wall of the witness's garden and when we inspected the face of the wall on the Convent side we likewise found no suspicious marks. One thing we were able to establish was that the vegetable-garden of the Convent was sufficiently isolated for a machine coming from the air to land there; a helicopter, for example, could very well have landed there without difficulty.

With a view to discovering further witnesses in the case, 500 circular letters in both French and Flemish were distributed to all the letter-boxes of the vicinity, inviting the residents to inform SOBEPS of any unusual occurrence that they might have observed during that period. However this effort produced no results.

The witness had earlier sightings

To round off and complete our account, we must mention that this was in fact not the first UFO sighting that V.M. had had. Several months previously, he and his wife were on vacation at Westende, on the coast of Belgium. While walking with their cousin and V.M.'s sister-in-law on the beach one evening in the last week of August, they saw a strange object flying over the sea. The time was around midnight, the weather was fine, and the sea calm. The party were walking along beside the water (it was high tide) when they heard a peculiar noise coming from out at sea, somewhat resembling a medium-powered ship's siren.

It was V.M.'s cousin who was the first to see, moving along above the surface of the water and very near to the beach, a very flat, red, rectangular object about five or six metres long, more or less hidden in the darkness and the faint mist. As the object passed in front of them, they were able to make out four very faintly lit square "portholes" set horizontally beneath the object. They also heard the splashing noise caused by it as it flew over the sea. It had come from the direction of Nieuw Poort to the N.E. and was travelling very slowly, parallel with the shore, towards Ostende to the S.W.

V.M. shone his torch at it and at once the lights in the four "portholes" went out, only the "red hull" remaining visible. Ahead of it lay a breakwater against which the "craft" was bound to crash. But, quite to the contrary, when it came to the breakwater, the object rose, still maintaining its horizontal position, crossed the breakwater, and then went down to water-level again and continued on its way. One further curious detail: when the object was passing over the breakwater they still heard the water splashing below.

When we visited the witness again in July 1974 he said he had had yet another sighting between Vilvorde and Brussels. He does not recall the precise date but thinks it was an evening in April. He was driving in his car (Ford Escort), with his wife and his cousin, when, on an open plateau near Koningslo, they noticed that there was a "second

Moon" quite low in the sky. They were travelling in third gear at about 60 km/p.h., and the engine began to sputter and finally failed completely, and the lights went out. He tried to re-start the engine, but without success.

After a minute or so, the luminous object in the sky moved away and then, as is now becoming fairly frequent in incidents of this kind, the engine started up again by itself without any action by the driver. Being still in third gear, the car ran on for a while, but then, unlike what happened in a similar case, at Aische-en-Refail,[2] it failed once more, because the road was now up-hill and third gear was therefore insufficient to take it. It is a pity that the witness who was acquainted with SOBEPS, did not inform us immediately of this fresh incident so that we could have investigated immediately rather than several months later.

Comments

Returning now to our primary sighting (the Vilvorde humanoid), we find that, if we consult Jader U. Pereira's study of the humanoid types,[3] we can classify the Vilvorde entity under his category T8XI, i.e., "diver-type of entity varying between 90 cms. and 1 m. 20 in height, wearing a one-piece suit, opaque or transparent, carrying lamp(s) and wearing a transparent globular helmet." This description calls to mind, in particular, the humanoids seen at Quarouble[4] on September 10, 1954.

On the other hand, the witness states that at more or less regular intervals eyelids of a sort came down simultaneously over the eyes of his ufonaut. Without wishing to establish a direct correlation here, we would nevertheless point out that this description might be considered comparable to the so-called *nictitating membranes* or eyelids of certain of the *Raptores* species of nocturnal and predatory birds. This supplementary eyelid passes at regular intervals across the eye (without the central nervous system being involved) for the purpose of eliminating the environmental impurities which adhere to the iris and for accustoming the iris to over-bright light. Cats too have a similar eyelid. Unlike the movement of the eyelids of the ufonaut however, the nictitating membranes of these few species of creatures, *Raptores* and cats, move across horizontally from the inner part of the eye towards the outer side of it. (Indeed man himself presents this same organ, but in a degenerated form, for it is thelittle red blob in the inner corner of the eye.)

Finally, some readers may feel astonished that the witness should have been able to describe such tiny details as the "small veinlets" when giving his account of the eyes of the entity. During our investigation he drew the eye for us to full scale, and subsequently we made tests, holding up his drawing at a distance of about 10 metres from him (which was the distance of the humanoid from him) and we have to admit that, provided the drawing is well lit, it is in fact quite possible to make out such small details in the eye at that distance. Moreover we must not forget that the eyes of the ufonaut were *luminous*, a fact that would have made it possible to see them correspondingly more clearly.

As regards the emblem on the machine, we feel, without having made a systematic search on this point, that there is no record of such an emblem having been seen previously. Our information on this comes principally from Monsieur Franck Boitte. Monsieur Yves Vezant who also took part in this enquiry, undertook to find out for us whether the witness might have got some of the material of his story from a book lent to him by a friend whom he had told about his nocturnal encounter. And indeed, although the witness, V.M., maintains that he is not well informed on the UFO Phenomenon, it is a fact that he has read the French translation of Frank Edwards' book "Flying Saucers, Serious Business." *But he read it after his sighting, and before our enquiry had got under way.*

In this particular book by Frank Edwards we find the following references:–

p.96. (French edition.) The case of Marius Dewilde; manlike creatures wearing shiny helmets like divers. Height between 1 m. and 1 m. 20.
p.144. Small beings of around 1 m., moving about like automata and having to move their feet first, in order to change direction.
p.148. Creatures that were phosphorescent, like the dial of a watch.
p.152. Small "human" beings of about 1 metre in height; shining one-piece suits and, on their chests, a box the size of three cigarette-packs stacked together.
p.158. Shining eyes, like the yellow eyes of cats.
p.163. Entities wearing transparent helmets with tubes linking the helmet to a device on the back.
p.166. A strange insignia on the side of the machine.
p.252. A machine with lights that were red, blue, white (flashing on intermittently) and red, blue, white, again, in the same order.

All these details appeared in varying degree in the account of our witness V.M., but they alone are insufficient for the construction of the whole of his story, which indeed does contain plenty of other features that are *not* mentioned in Frank Edwards' book.

Apart from this one book on UFOs, V.M. (who is a great reader) claims that he had never gone into the subject of UFOs, his interests lying rather in the direction of works on early history, and the enigmas presented by vanished civilizations of the past.

Being of the younger generation, V.M. had participated in the meetings of a group where people of different religions debated on religious themes, and these discussions, which were at times lively, indeed impassioned, could fleetingly have exercised a powerful impression upon his still malleable personality. We would add furthermore that he has a great liking for modern music and owns a big collection of records.

Despite all our efforts, all the same, we have been quite unable to find any other Testimony from any other people who might have been able to confirm this unusual sighting which thus, alas, has only the one witness.

Consequently we must remain very cautious in our evaluation of it, and give only a relative rating

(continued on page 22)

STELLA LANSING'S CLOCKLIKE UFO PATTERNS—PART 3

Berthold Eric Schwarz, M.D.

Dr. Schwarz is Consultant, Brain Wave Laboratory, Essex County Medical Center, Cedar Grove, New Jersey, and has been a member of the FSR team since 1969.

TO summarize, Mrs. Lansing has apparently succeeded in filming clocklike formations using six different cameras, two different films, inside and outside, daytime and night-time, taking pictures of TV shows, in different locations in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She has succeeded in pictures when her camera and film were switched at the last moment with mine. In some clocklike-formation cases, where we simultaneously filmed, she succeeded and I didn't. Although I have had some unaccountable successes when filming with Mrs. Lansing, in the main, my controls produced nothing like her films.

The overall impression is that Mrs. Lansing does not have a dearth of data but a surfeit. For the moment, various technical questions pertaining to a wider selection of cameras, films, other equipment and methods, to more exhaustively the possibility of artifact, induced illusions, etc., will have to remain unanswered.[17]

III. Controlled Experiments with Mrs. Lansing and Others

What would happen when Mrs. Lansing and others simultaneously used different motion picture cameras and films at the same targets?

Experiments: In the attempt to answer this question, Mrs. Lansing, August C. Roberts, Eric R. Schwarz and I, used seven different motion picture cameras and films, which were switched among the operators in several New Jersey locales, from Friday night, June 16, 1973, until Monday night, June 19, 1973. The cameras were inspected by Roberts and ourselves and found to be free of defects that could possibly cause artifacts.[18] The films were loaded into cameras and used by each person according to the format of Table 2. A total of 650 feet of film was exposed, and with two exceptions, which will be described subsequently, the films were developed by Kodak Laboratories via Photo-Cullen, a leading New Jersey dealer.

For the clinical control films, the target locales were (1) my Montclair backyard on a moonlit night, and a colour TV screen in my home, between 10 p.m. and midnight; (2) on cloudy nights, with no moon and only a few stars, in the reservoir and watershed areas of northern New Jersey; (3) a master telepathist and magician Joseph Dunninger's colour TV screen and backyard situated on the New Jersey Palisades, overlooking New York; (4) the waterfront of Green Pond, New Jersey, late at night; and finally (5) a black and white TV screen in Montclair.

Results: With some puzzling exceptions,[19] most of the projected control films aside from known targets showed only low-visibility, poorly defined artifacts. Omitting one episode in Eric's work, the overall impression was the paucity of material that resembled Mrs. Lansing's ufographs. On June 27, Mrs. Lansing excitedly phoned me about Eric's TV film on June 16, which she had taken back to Massachusetts for development. Instead of giving me the film for development, Mrs. Lansing inadvertently put the completed cassette with her other paraphernalia. On her trip to New Jersey earlier that day, she had exposed some of the film; and when we experimented that night, Eric used her Canon camera and finished the 50 feet. In addition to outside movies, Eric, like the rest of us, had filmed the CBS late movie on TV, which was about warships. The records made at the time, and several unique features in our memories, clearly indicated that Eric had used Mrs. Lansing's camera for this.

When Mrs. Lansing projected Eric's film, she was surprised to note clocklike formations. Later, frame-by-frame sequential analysis showed the sometime present progression of similar thoughtographic effects: (1) several frames of blotchiness: mottling or particulate matter or some precipitation on the emulsion (?), (2) clocklike formations superimposed on the TV naval scene and overlapping a frame, then more blotchiness, and another clocklike formation, several clear TV frames, and (3) an odd, off-the-screen, bizarre-shaped artifact similar to what Mrs. Lansing had obtained on some of her previous films (see Figure 15a, b, c).

Mrs. Lansing, Roberts, and I, using different cameras and films, simultaneously filming the same TV show (and three other shows), obtained nothing like Eric's clocklike formation. Why is this so? Was it because Mrs. Lansing used a Fujica camera, which is different from her own familiar apparatus? Perhaps she was unhappy about this arrangement. Instead of having the usual frame-by-frame pictures, the Fujica has single frames alternating with unexposed frames. However, Mrs. Lansing didn't know this at the time. Her cameras are part of herself (see Figure 16 for an interesting artifact or thoughtographic effect of self-taken movies of Mrs. Lansing—"body image.")[20] She worked and saved for the best, and possibly this is a significant clue: or could other things have accounted for

Eric's success? Could Mrs. Lansing have operated through Eric and her favourite Canon camera? And if so, why Eric and not Roberts or I? Is it because she is fond of Eric, who might remind her of her sons? For she trusts Eric with her most precious possession, the Canon, which has given her so many spectacular successes. Or could it be any one of many different combinations of this: e.g., Eric was interested in the naval scene more than in the other shows. Mrs. Lansing and the others were not impressed by this movie. Or could there be some force (telekinesis?) common to the television and the UFOs that might be compatible with Eric's makeup, etc.? It should be recalled that most of Mrs. Lansing's work has been with battery-powered cameras. Although she has had few experiences with spring-wound cameras, she has filmed clocklike formations with them.

As a final note, Mrs. Lansing attempted influencing a compass, an electromagnetic UFO detector, magnetometer, and a radiometer. No results were observed.

Dunninger's Opinion

The visit to Joseph Dunninger's house was made more interesting by his reviewing several of Mrs. Lansing's films, including clocklike formations and the bearded figure. Dunninger had no explanation for what he saw. However, he was well aware of the discrepancies and pitfalls in observing data. For example he recalled how earlier in his career his telepathy was witnessed by Hugo Munsterberg, the Harvard experimental psychologist: "He didn't believe my work was supernatural but supernormal. Later Munsterberg served on one of my Boston Committees."

In reference to Mrs. Lansing, as in the past,[21] Dunninger was convinced of her honesty and the absence of any fraud. However, from his more than half a century of investigating mediums and only rarely stumbling upon a possible genuine "spirit" photograph, he wondered if Mrs. Lansing's ufographs could be ascribed to some unaccountable mechanical error in the cameras or in the development of the films.

The bearded figure was impressive and Dunninger compared it to some of his own experiences. For example, a circa 1940 picture [*not possible to reproduce this photograph with any degree of success*—EDITOR] of Dunninger and unexplained background faces, taken by his wife using his camera and film in the dungeon of the renowned colonial haunted witches' house (Rebecca Nurse) in Salem, Massachusetts.[22]

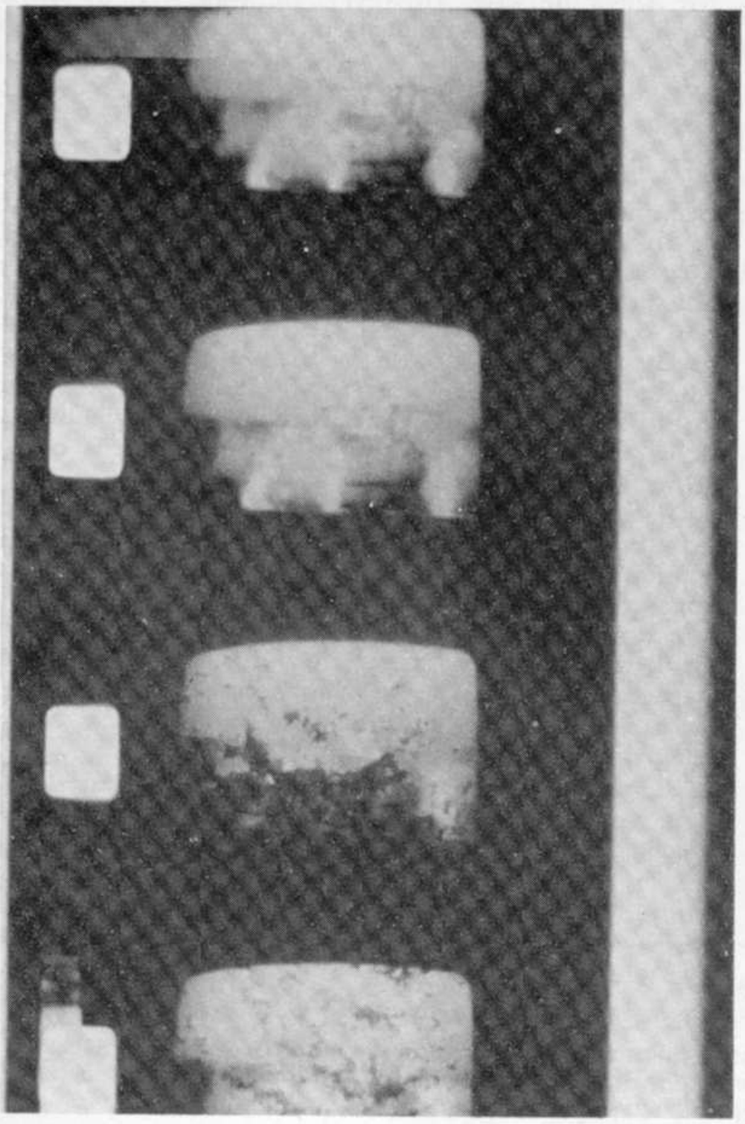
Throughout the years Dunninger has prided himself on being able to duplicate through telepathic, magical (sleight of hand, apparatus, etc.), or a

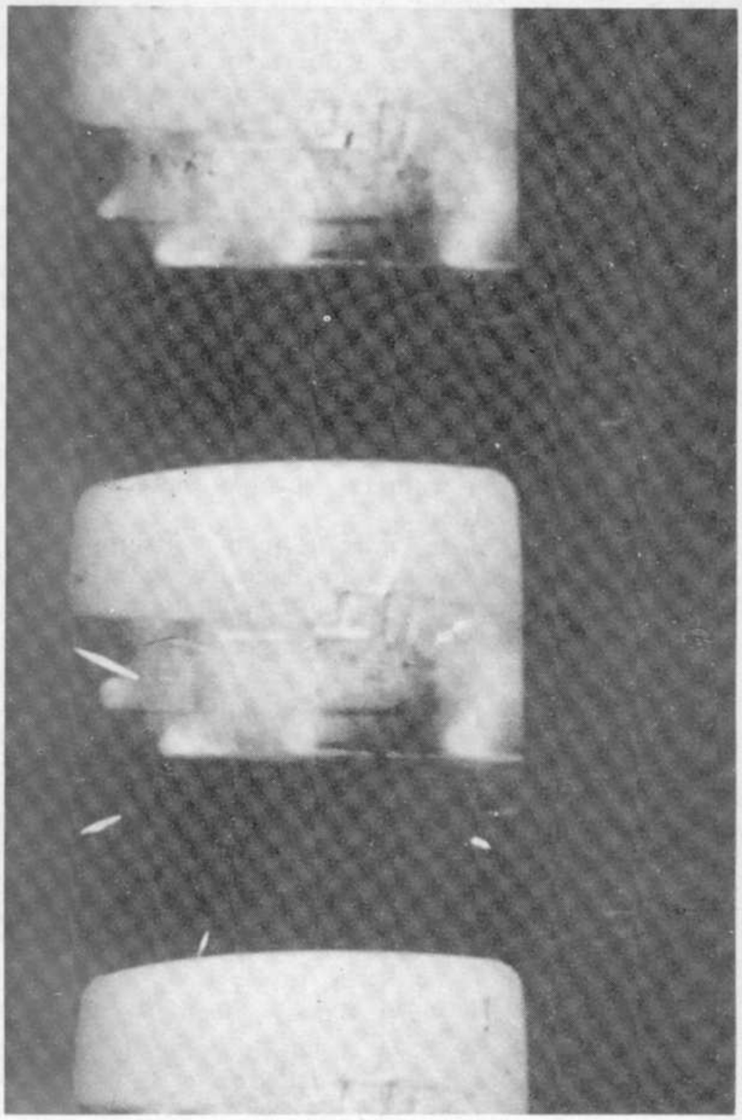
	Fri. 6.15.73 Cloudy - Moon Backyard, and TV in sitting room, Montclair	Sat. 6.16.73 Cloudy - No moon Pequannock, Clinton Reservoir, Jefferson Township, Highway 80	Sun. 6.17.73 Cloudy - No moon J.D. home on Palisades, his TV, Reservoir at Cedar Grove, N.J.	Mon. 6.18.73 Cloudy - No moon Green Pond, black-and-white TV in Montclair
1. Mrs. Lansing	AR's Fugica*	Canon	Canon and Capro (capped) loaded by AR	Keystone, Revere, Canon and Capro (capped)†
2. August C. Roberts	BES's Revere	Revere	Argus	—
3. Eric Schwarz	Canon (finished film started by Mrs. Lansing	—	Instamatic M-12	Instamatic M-12
4. B.E. Schwarz	Instamatic M-12 (Mrs. Lansing's)	Instamatic M-12	Revere	Revere and Capro (uncapped) loaded by Mrs. Lansing.

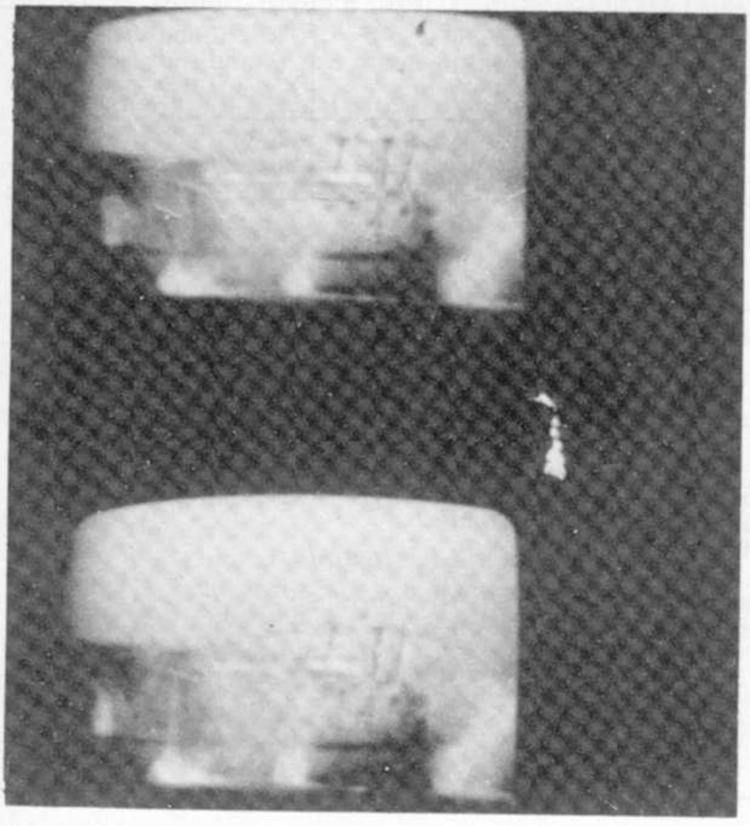
NOTES:
1. Argus Super 8, 708.
2. Canon Super 8, 1:1.4 lens 7.5, 600 mm. Automatic zoom 814.
3. Capro 300, Super 8, automatic zoom 1:1.8, F10-30 mm.
4. Fugica Super 8, F 1.8 lens, 11.5 mm.
5. Keystone Model A-7, 16 mm.
6. Kodak Instamatic M-12, Super 8, Ektomar Lens 2.7, 16 mm.
7. Revere, regular 8 mm. magazine, reflex model 154, zoom lens, 28 mm.

* Fugi (Japanese) ASA 25 Regular 8 film was used.
† Ektachrome 160 film used.
All other films were Kodachrome II.

TABLE II







Above left: Figure 15a
Above right: Figure 15b
Below left: Figure 15c
Eric Schwarz's TV progression to clocklike UFO shapes on naval scene

combination of means most of the mediumistic phenomena he has studied, but he was quite perplexed by Mrs. Lansing's ufographs and some of her experiences. He recalled how a medium had deluded herself with "spirit" pictures which were due to a pinhole defect in her camera. No medium or magician had ever successfully challenged Dunninger: that is, they could not duplicate his telepathic work and win a $10,000 reward. For example, no medium succeeded, as Dunninger could, in getting all the letters to a word, or serial digits that were written on a piece of paper tacked on to a board placed on the centre of a table in full light, untouched by anyone and in full view of an investigative scientific committee.

As Chairman of the Committee for the Investigation of Psychic Phenomena, sponsored by the *Scientific American*, in addition to countless similar posts, Dunninger, in association with prestigious scientists and citizens such as the Mayo brothers, Waldemar Kaempffert and Floyd Odlum, experimented with many famous and infamous mediums.[23]

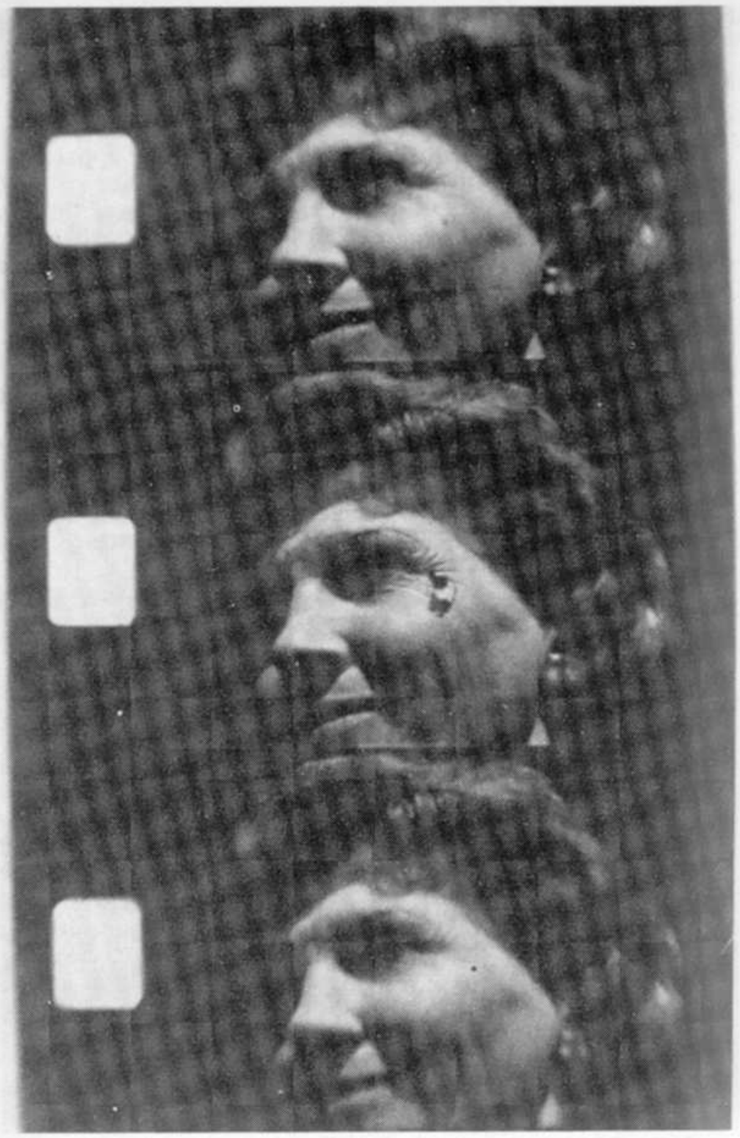


Fig. 16 Mrs. Lansing's self portrait with facial lesion

"Some of them could do wondrous things – the three percent that is legitimate, which can't be explained, is what has always bothered me." Possibly this is the case in many contactee experiences: a combination of a "real" event with secondary psychopathology, cultural colouring, and occasional genuine psi phenomena occurring in the wake of the splitting UFO episode.

It is odd that the frequency of the reputed UFO-associated monster reports seemingly vary inversely with the tangible evidence. Perhaps Mrs. Lansing's ufographs, where she is often successful and others are not, can be compared to the hypothesized materialization and dematerialization of monsters in UFO events, and to such supposed happenings in seances.[24]

* * * * *

The fourth, and final, part of Dr. Schwarz's study, in which he covers further experiments, will appear in the next issue of FSR—EDITOR.

Notes and References

17 Perhaps some of the proposed techniques for studying poltergeists are applicable to Mrs. Lansing: a mobile laboratory including videotaping (see section IV in this paper), telemetric equipment, apparatus for registering physical phenomena, and a high-frequency camera capable of 10,000 photographs per second. See *Symposium: The Future of the Poltergeist* (Chairman W.T. Joines, with participants A.R.G. Owen, Karlis Osis, W.G. Roll, and Hans Bender), *Proceedings of the Parapsychological Association*, No.7, 1970, pp. 33-37

18 In one instance, Mrs. Lansing shot 50 feet of Kodachrome II film using her Capro camera with the lens capped, and nothing spectacular was obtained. Since many of her ufographs were single-framed or overlapped frames and seemed to defy the law of optics, it was felt that this procedure was advisable: viz., if her ufographs were thoughtographic and involved a telekinetic or "lensless" mechanism, interesting results might be obtained. The parameters of this involved subject are explored by Eisenbud in reference to Ted Serio's "gismo" (see note 6).

19 Although probably artifact, it is part of the record that, using the Revere movie camera, I obtained one early evening shot of an airplane surrounded by a faint ring; prior to that, the ring was filmed separately. Also, late at night and at a different time, I obtained frames of blue-green curving and zigzagging, spiraling lines and a billowing white effect across the screen. This is similar to some pictures in Mrs. Lansing's collection.

20 The theoretical aspects and manifold manifestations of psi and body image are brilliantly explored by Jan Ehrenwald (see note 14). His exposition on the psi syndrome is compatible with the author's clinical data where the various forms of psi merge with sensory functions and form part of a continuum often without any arbitrary cutoff point. Using Ehrenwald's scheme, Mrs. Lansing's photographic facial lesion, if not artifact, could be likened to her ufographs, which represent the most personal, the dearest things in her life, and might be viewed as an extension of ego function and a psychokinetic manifestation. However, why the presumed effects occurred under the circumstances of movies where astronomical numbers of frames might favour the chances for success and were never noted in checking Mrs. Lansing's family photograph albums is a mystery. Perhaps further study of the psychodynamics of thoughtography will provide the clues.

21 These matters were privately reviewed with Dunninger on several occasions when he also examined several of Mrs. Lansing's slides and prints. In an attempt to simulate more meaningful controls and settle the ever-difficult problem of artifact, as well as fishing for clues, I took 150 feet of colour motion pictures at Dunninger's home. Analysis of the films of TV sequences and various presumed psychic high-valence objects, such as historic oil paintings, archaeological, religious articles, etc., yielded nothing like Mrs. Lansing's findings – not even adventitious material. In his career Dunninger has had several personal experiences and has also collected examples of presumed thoughtography ("spirit pictures"), and once (December 9, 1970), he admirably succeeded in an experiment with his daughter and me. I clicked the Polaroid camera shutter, which was aimed at Dunninger and his daughter Maxine, as he "projected" the number 57 to her forehead. This technique was similar to an unplanned experiment of years ago which he performed for a newspaper editor and photographer. In our experiment we were surprised to find that the immediately developed Polaroid showed a Brahmin-like

Fig. 17 Joseph Dunninger with daughter, Maxine, with "Brahmin spot."

spot on Maxine's forehead (see Figure 17). The photo was examined by members of Dunninger's family, my office staff, and my family. When I brought the photo to the laboratory so that a negative and additional prints could be made, I was chagrined to find that, despite all precautions the photo lab nearly ruined the picture by inducing artifacts. However, microscopic examination revealed the Brahmin-like spot to be a pinhole area on the emulsion and surrounded with a dark "pigmented" areola – in contrast to the lab-induced linear scratches with no contiguous dark border. This beginner's luck, first Polaroid success was not duplicated in seven subsequent trials, but neither had artifact occurred. Fortunately this situation has not happened before (or since) at the photo lab, but the Brahmin-spot "coincidence" must be explained. This problem, then, cuts both ways: and as much as one should not read things *into* situations, one should not be quick to disregard evidence which is solid, but compromised in the process by unexpected developments.

22 A spectacular demonstration of a three-dimensional illusion of a haunted house, using very costly apparatus, can be found at Disney World, Florida. Another visually striking effect might be the exhibition on lasers, at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Although there might be some fundamentally similar mechanisms in these instances, the knowledge, techniques, and costly equipment preclude such a possibility for Mrs. Lansing's films. For some fascinating theorizing on lasers see Dr. Bernard E. Finch's "Are UFOs 'Flying' Laser Generators?" *Flying Saucer Review,* Vol.19 (No.4): 28-29 (July/August), 1973.

23 (a) Dunninger, Joseph: *Houdini's Spirit Exposes, from Houdini's Own Manuscripts, Records and Photographs, and Dunninger's Psychical Investigations* (edited by Dr. Joseph H. Kraus), Experimenter Publishing Co., Inc., New York, 1928, Vol. 1, p. 112.

(b) Dunninger, Joseph: *Inside the Medium's Cabinet,* David Kemp & Co., New York, 1935, p. 228.

(c) Dunninger, Joseph: *How to Make a Ghost Walk – Simple Directions for Staging a Seance,* David Kemp & Co., New York, 1936, p.82.

(d) Dunninger, Joseph, as told to Walter B. Gibson: *Dunninger's Secrets,* Lyle Stuart, New York (in press).

24 F.W. Pawlowski, Professor of Anatomy at the University of Michigan, reported his experiences of seances with the Polish medium, Kluski ("The Mediumship of Frank Kluski of Warsaw," *Quarterly Transactions of the British College of Psychic Science,* Vol. IV, No. 3:206-218 [October], 1925). Also see Dunninger's opinion of wax hand casts from the Kluski seances, note 23 (a), pp. 86-88; Nandor Fodor's analysis of possible animal materializations in his *The Unaccountable,* Award Books, New York, 1968, pp. 122-251; and numerous articles in FSR.

Vilvorde *(continued from page 17)*

to this account which is, nevertheless, "all-of-apiece" and entirely coherent from start to finish, the witness's descriptions often being very precise.

(On the Poher Scale, we give it a rating of... *credibility:* 3, *strangeness:* 5.)

We would emphasise the fact that the witness stated that the strange being left no traces on the ground or on the wall. This factor could be taken as evidence in support of the argument that his story is authentic. For, had this been a well staged hoax, it would seem highly probable, that V.M. would, for example, have presented us with some scratches on the whitewashed brickwork of the wall in order to lend more weight to his story.

When we visited him a second time, he still stuck to all the details of his statement, and the fresh sketch of his humanoid which he did for us proved to match up entirely with the one he had drawn for us in our first interview several months earlier.

Some folk may perhaps be surprised at the great number of UFO sightings that this witness claims to have had. It is indeed astonishing that one individual should witness so many happenings within so short a period – this being against all the calculations of reasonable probability.

Nevertheless, we are obliged to recognize that over the period of three years in which our SOBEPS investigatory teams have been in action, it has been shown to be a fact that there are other persons too who are equally privileged in this respect and who have had several sightings without their credibility being thereby abated. Consequently, while it may have its weak points, we feel that the account of V.M. may contain sufficient information that is quite original for it to merit a place in our pages.

Notes & references by Gordon Creighton

1 Not translated.

2 Not translated. Original report in *Inforespace* Nos. 16 and 17.

3 This very useful catalogue of entity types, by our Brazilian friend Jader U. Pereira of Pôrto Alegre, has appeared in a French translation in *Phénomènes Spatiaux,* Nos. 24,25,27,28, and 29. I regret that I have not yet had time to tackle the job of making an English translation of it.

4 This is the famous case of the steelworker Marius Dewilde, which happened, incidentally, in the Franco-Belgian frontier area and consequently not so very far from Vilvorde. It is Case No. 9 of Jacques Vallée's *The Pattern Behind The UFO Landings,* in FSR's compilation *The Humanoids,* edited by Charles Bowen, and now available in a new paperback edition, price 45 pence, issued by Futura Publications Ltd., 49 Poland Street, London, W1A 2LG.

THE PASCAGOULA UFO & OCCUPANT INCIDENT

Richard W. Heiden

The original version of this article was translated and published in the Spanish magazine *Stendek, * No.17, of September 1974. This new version includes changes made by Mr. Heiden, based on new information, and a few minor improvements.**

IN the autumn of 1973 the United States of America experienced a UFO flap which was undoubtedly the biggest ever. The most interesting, best documented, and most publicized sighting was that of Charles E. Hickson (45) and Calvin R. Parker, Jr. (18), in Pascagoula, Mississippi. Pascagoula, the county seat of Jackson County, has a population of 27,000. It is on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, on the banks of the Pascagoula River. Several shipyards are located there.

Charlie Hickson and Calvin Parker are family friends from Jones County, north of Pascagoula. At the time of their sighting they both lived in the town of Gautier, which is just west of Pascagoula, and worked at the Walker Shipyard in Pascagoula, where Hickson is still a foreman. On the evening of Thursday, October 11, 1973, they stated that they met three UFO occupants, and at least one of the witnesses was taken aboard their craft.

Hickson and Parker said they were fishing in the Pascagoula River, when at about 9.00 p.m., they heard a "zipping" sound behind them and an oblong blue-grey craft five to six metres long, with flashing blue lights, descended and hovered in an open area nearby, about 50 cms. above the ground.

An opening appeared in the craft, and three creatures (possibly robots) came out. They were about 155 cms. tall, with wrinkled pale grey skin ("a little more metallic-looking than an elephant's skin"), pincer-like hands, slits for eyes, two small cone-shaped ears, a small sharp nose, with a hole below, and no neck. As they approached the two men, they floated 30 cms. above the ground, not moving their legs. One of them made a humming or buzzing noise. Hickson was paralyzed by fear, and Parker passed out.

Two of the creatures gently picked up Hickson by his arms, and carried him inside the ship. He lost all feeling, including that of weight, when they touched him. Hickson observed that the room he was taken to was completely bare and well-lighted, but he could not tell where the dazzling light was coming from. He was placed in a reclining position, but stayed suspended in air, and never touched the craft itself. An instrument resembling a huge eye, and about 25-30 cms. long, floated around, moving back and forth across his body, at a distance of 20-25 cms., as though it were examining or photographing him. The creatures left Hickson alone for a while and then "floated" him back to his original location on the pier, and returned to the object.

A Pascagoula entity, as described by the witnesses.

He is not really sure how long he was inside the UFO — it may be anywhere from 15 to 40 minutes. Parker, who did not come to until after the craft had sped away, was probably taken into it by the third occupant. The UFO left no traces.

There were several other reports of UFOs in the Pascagoula area that same evening, and many television sets experienced interference. The interference was worst on sets closest to the river.

At about 11.00 p.m., an hour or two after the UFO and its occupants had gone, Hickson and Parker called the sheriff's office, and went there to relate what had happened.

Sheriff Fred Diamond and Captain Glen Ryder interrogated them about the sighting. "We did every-

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* Address: STENDEKCEI, Apartado 282, Barcelona, Spain.

thing we knew to break their stories," said Ryder, "but both stories fit. If they were lying to me, they should be in Hollywood."

After the interrogation, which was tape-recorded, the two witnesses were left alone for a while. The tape recorder which, unknown to Parker and Hickson, was left running, recorded their conversation about their frightening experience — a conversation they thought was private. Calvin Parker's emotional strain was such that, after his companion left the room, he prayed.

The next morning, Friday, Hickson and Parker went to Keesler Air Force Base at Biloxi, Mississippi, to be checked for radiation, because the local hospital does not have facilities for that purpose. The examination fortunately did not reveal the presence of any radiation contamination.

While they were at the air force base, Hickson and Parker related their experience to the head of base intelligence. He asked very few questions, and "just let 'em tell their story from start to finish," according to Tom Huntley, a detective with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, who had driven Parker and Hickson to the base. Huntley said that he did not even seem excited, "like maybe he'd heard it all before."

On Saturday Hickson's left arm started bleeding just below the shoulder, but the next day all trace of the wound was gone. It may also be of interest to note that Hickson does not wear a watch, because they do not keep time on him. "They'd either lose time, or gain time," he said. "Or they'd just stop.... I tried every make and brand I could find, but I never did find one that would keep correct time."

Dr. James A. Harder of the University of California at Berkeley (APRO's[1] director of research and consultant in civil engineering) and Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University (former astronomical consultant to the United States Air Force's Project Blue Book and director of the recently-founded Center for UFO Studies[2] and now a Consultant to FSR) came to Pascagoula to investigate the case. On Sunday morning, October 14, Dr. Harder hypnotized the two men separately, and regressed them back to the time of their experience, the terror of which they both relived. Dr. Harder commented afterwards: "The experience that they underwent was indeed a real one. A very strong feeling of terror is practically impossible to fake under hypnosis."

On October 30, Charlie Hickson underwent a polygraph examination, or lie detector test, at the Pendleton Detective Agency in New Orleans. The polygraph operator, Scott Glasgow, was very sceptical of Hickson's truthfulness concerning his incredible experience, and spent 2½ hours in a vain attempt to prove him a liar. Glasgow was finally forced to admit, "This s. o. b. is telling the truth."

Calvin Parker did not accompany his friend to New Orleans for the lie detector test because he had suffered a nervous breakdown as a result of his experience, and required hospitalization. It took him several months to recover.

The Pascagoula sighting, which was substantiated by several means, is a most important contact case. It stands as the most interesting, and sensational incident reported in the flap. Dr. Hynek said, "There's simply no question in my mind that these men have had a very real, frightening experience, the physical nature of which I am not certain about."

Notes:

1 Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, 3910 E. Kleindale Road, Tucson, Arizona 85712 USA.

2 Center for UFO Studies, P.O. Box 11, Northfield Illinois 60093 USA.

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"The Dick Cavett Show," ABC-TV, November 2, 1973 (appearance by Charles Hickson). (In Milwaukee the show was in the early morning of November 3, but in most cities it was shown before midnight, November 2).

Friedman, Stanton T., and B. Ann Slate, "The Truth Behind the Amazing Pascagoula Contact," *Saga's UFO Report*, spring 1974, pp. 18ff.

Hickson, Charles, "Story of U.F.O." (record relating his experience).

Hynek, J. Allen, talk at Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisconsin, January 20, 1974.

Lorenzen, Coral, personal communications, March 23, 1974, and April 4, 1974.

"The NCB Evening News," October 15, 1973 (interview of Charles Hickson and Calvin Parker).

"UFOs — Do you Believe?" NCB-TV, December 15, 1974 (appearances by Charles Hickson and Calvin Parker).

"UFOs Over Mississippi... A 7-Day Space Odyssey," the Pascagoula *Mississippi Press*, 1973.

A NOTE ON BLUMRICH

FSR Volume 19, No.6, carried a review by Luis Schönherr of Josef F. Blumrich's *Da Tat sich der Himmel Auf...* (1973, Dusseldorf and Vienna), an interpretation of the book of Ezekiel as the account of a series of UFO encounters. An English edition has recently been published by Bantam Books in North America and Corgi Books in the U.K. under the title **The Spaceships of Ezekiel.** The translation is by the author, and so presumably says what he wants it to say. The text of ten chapters is followed by an appendix, which deals with the technological issues raised by this interpretation according to the tenets of current thinking. The book is well produced, with drawings and photographs located in situ in the text. Both editions are available in England, differing only in the cover design. Bantam Books got theirs out in February 1974 and so were able to obtain £1 for its 180 pages from gullible readers (such as me) before Corgi published their version in June at 50p.

Ivor Grattan-Guiness

CROCODILE-SKINNED ENTITIES AT CALGARY

W. K. Allan

WE have been criticised for "sitting" on this single-witness case report, but I would like to emphasize that it was not our intention to withhold details from anybody. Our wish was only to keep from publication the sketch made by the witness, David Seewalt, and his description of the entities until a similar experience was reported reliably and independently from a different locale.

The details of the Pascagoula case reported by Messrs. Parker and Hickson seem to have satisfied Drs. Hynek and Harder; they seem also to meet this criterion. However, the David Seewalt sketch of the "android" is retained by us, together with the details (i.e. numbers) of fingers and toes, in the hope that either Parker or Hickson can provide a sketch, for comparison, with no possibility of previous collusion. Later correlations between such sketches would provide a strong element of the kind we have sought after for so long.

Elsewhere Dr. Leo Sprinkle has come across a girl who, under hypnotic regression, described how she was exposed to an "orange light" which seemed to erase the conscious memory; within two weeks of that, the experience of two Idaho Indians — described two years later in the last multipage format NICAP UFO Investigator — also seemed to check. One of the Indians was quoted as saying that the face of the reported entity had a rough look like "scars, deep scars," large "high" ears, a slit of a mouth with thin lips — or none at all; no nose could be seen in the roughness of the face. These cases, including that of David Seewalt, should certainly be considered as a group.

The incident

On November 17, 1967, David Seewalt left his chum's home at 5.45 p.m. and started on his short walk home, which would normally take three minutes. At 6.30 p.m. his older sister saw him dash in through the front door and, following him upstairs, she found him trying to hide under the bed. She stated that his eyes were glazed, and that he seemed to be in shock. She shook him and he said: "I've been chased by a flying saucer." One of his shoes was missing, and this she later found out in the road.

David's parents telephoned me, and on the Sunday (three days after the alleged experience): I went over and taped his description of what he believed had happened. His mother told us that David, who normally is a placid person, had been uneasy and nervous all weekend.

Investigation

On April 21, 1968, David had a nightmare — his first — and on being awakened by his younger brother, with whom he was struggling, he said: "Call Dad. I know what happened when I was chased by the UFO."

Mrs. Seewalt telephoned us about this development, and some time later we were lucky to obtain the services — gratis — of Dr. K. (name and address on file), a doctor of dental surgery who employs hypnosis in his practise. Dr. K. conducted six sessions of hypnotic regression for us, and requested that we did not record any of it other than one short, dramatic sequence.

I found the reactions to Dr. K.'s questions most convincing. For instance, when he asked David what they had been doing at his friend's house, he replied: "Weight lifting." Now Mrs. Seewalt had told me that David was always home on time, so, when Dr. K. said: "Now you boys know you were up to some mischief and devised this yarn to cover up your being late getting home," David replied with an angry and hostile denial.

When he had quietened down he was asked what had happened as he walked home across the field. He replied:

"Heard this high-pitched hum."

"Then what happened?"

"I looked up and saw this big thing."

"What happened next?"

At which question David's leg, which had been relaxed and crossed over the other leg, began to shake violently, as though the boy were frightened.

After a pause to allow him to calm down, the question was repeated, and was followed by another paroxysm of terror.

Dr. K. thereupon changed his approach:

"Now you are watching a T.V. show of your experience and it can't hurt you. Just relax and tell me what you see on the screen.

At that the story unfolds. He is taken up in an orange beam of light, put on a table and wheeled through a 'computer room' with a console with blinking lights, and undressed by aliens who had a 'rough brown skin like crocodiles.' They had no clothes, 'x' fingers, 'x' toes, and when he recalls how the fingers touched his body he begins deep breathing and trembling, and is obviously terrorised.

Our contributor, who has just retired after 39 years as a school teacher, lived and worked for many years at Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Well-known locally for a series of radio broadcasts on the topic of UFOs which he made on the local station, he became a focal point for people who wished to report UFO experiences without seeking newspaper publicity. Mr. Allan now lives in Kelowna, British Columbia.

EDITOR

Later, at a Sony videotaped session at the Psychology Department of the University of Calgary, David described the examining table and the bright lights like those of an "operating room." When asked how he knew, he described in great detail his appendicitis operation when he was in Grade IV. He even detailed the incision under general anaesthesia. One of the orderlies who had wheeled David into the operating theatre on that occasion was old, and under Dr. M.'s questioning, David conceded that he had wrinkled skin on the back of his hand. Dr. M. cast a knowing glance, which suggested that this admission had resolved the whole affair.

In this I can in no way concur, for it does not take into account the events I witnessed in the preliminary sessions with Dr. K. Nor does it take into account David's imitation of the aliens' voices, which checked with the description "...similar to the noise made by a kazoo" (page 60, line 3 of *The Humanoids*, in its original FSR Special Issue No. 1 version – October-November 1966). The Lorenzens' *UFOs over the Americas* did not appear in Calgary until later with its descriptions of rough-skinned beings on p.127, lines 15 and 16, and p.180, lines 8 and 9.

Since I cannot disprove Dr. M.'s theory that the whole affair is a mental miasma arising from too many TV saucer shows and science fiction books in combination with the subconscious memory of his appendectomy, we let the matter rest in the hope that something else may turn up that will help to resolve the matter.

* * * * *

Editor's comment: I trust Bill Allan will soon find himself free to release further details to fill the obvious gaps in this report. In addition to the temporarily-withheld data about the appearance of the entities, the sketch, and the number of fingers and toes, there is no mention of David's age at the time of the incident. Also we would like to know more, if possible, about the 'craft,' whether or not it landed and, if it did, then *how* it landed, and so on. The existence of so many gaps in this report has been one of the main reasons for our delaying publication.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

Fernand Lagarde

This item was the signed editorial leader of the French journal *Lumières dans la Nuit* No. 139 of November 1974. Translation by Gordon Creighton

A VISIT to us by Monsieur Gayral, our devoted investigator at Muret, who brought me plaster casts (impressive) of two of the 223 holes left by a 'machine' that flew over a field at Salvetat (Haute-Garonne) has pointed up one aspect of the situation which we generally do not take into consideration, simply because the *facts* remain unknown – and for a very good reason.

We are wont to ridicule credulous witnesses or flying saucer fanatics for whom it is self-evident that the UFOs come from Sirius, or from Venus, or who make fantastic mistakes over sundry objects. The harm that is done (in all good faith) by these folk is immense. Such is the lot of all inexplicable phenomena.

But what people don't know about are the sightings of weird phenomena for which the witnesses find a completely natural explanation that satisfies them, after which they no longer feel any further need to speak of the matter except perhaps to remark, in the course of a conversation, that they too once saw something, but that they are not so foolish as not to know the difference between black and white or to take the moon for green cheese.

Here are two examples to illustrate this sort of supposedly explicable sightings. One night one of these witnesses sees two luminous balls moving towards each other in the sky. The balls join up, remain together for a moment, and then separate, each going its way. The witness has his explanation: oh yes, it was two aeroplanes in flight, which have just carried out a refuelling operation. The witness is satisfied. What he saw is normal and natural.

Another witness explains: "Yes, I've already seen lights in the sky, but it was nothing. For example, one evening I saw a satellite pass over, and join up with a star. It remained inside the star for a moment, and then continued on its way again."

For this witness too the event was a quite natural one, and he has only spoken of it because we had insisted that he do so. But for him the matter is solved and disposed of: why, it was simply a satellite meeting a star and remaining in it for a while before departing again on its way. And what is there more normal than that!

Naturally happenings of these kinds will never be known, but they show that many witnesses do not overburden themselves with questions, or that they easily manage to find a reassuring explanation for something that was anything but reassuring.

These happenings show therefore that there are naive folk on both sides of the fence: in the camps of those who see saucers everywhere and those who do not wish to believe in saucers. Credulity and incredulity are attributes which are distributed in equal proportion. I thought it a good idea to emphasise this. The one side balances the other. But it is only the first category (that of the credulous) that comes to light. *It is the only one of the two that is known.*

OPERATION KLEIN-REIFLING

Gordon Creighton

AMONG the vast accumulation of UFO reports in many languages which I have in my files and which still await translation into English, there are a few issues of *Informationen der Gesellschaft fur Interplanetarik Osterreich (Bulletins of the Austrian Interplanetary Society)*, a small, mimeographed privately issued Austrian research journal which petered out of existence in the mid-1960s. The moving spirit in the AIS was a Herr Maschek.

The AIS issue for September/October 1963 contains a report which has always struck me as of considerable interest and possessing the ring of truth. In recent correspondence with FSR's contributor, Ernst Berger, of Austria, I have had the opportunity to raise the matter of this report, which bore the title given above. In reply Herr Berger informs me that, while he personally was never associated with the AIS because he regarded the group's general approach to be "overorganized," too rigid, and insufficiently scientific, he has no reason to doubt that the "Operation Klein-Reifling" report is quite genuine. I am sure the case will be of interest to many readers, and so give a condensed translation herewith:

On July 28, 1963, Herr Alexander Santner, an Alpine herdsman at the Saileralm hut near Klein-Reifling (about 30 kms. south-east of Steyr, Upper Austria) observed at midnight, in a clear sky, a globe-shaped object of varying brilliance which zigzagged and hovered for one hour and 45 minutes over the region of Almkogel and Bodenwies, above Wieser and Langlocker Mauer. His wife was with him and and she also observed it.

Recalling an AIS article which he had seen in the illustrated weekly *Neue Illustrierte Wochenschau*, Herr Santner reported his sighting to officials of the Klein-Reifling rural police.

The matter having aroused his interest and curiosity, he and his family remained on the watch for further phenomena, and on the night of August 11, 1963, they were able to observe something that was quite unique.

It was midnight, and the witnesses numbered three, namely himself, his wife, and their 15-year-old son.

The family were aroused from their sleep by a commotion among the cattle. Herr Santner stepped outside and, looking around, beheld no less than 40-50 luminous globes, of different dimensions, which appeared to be flying in and out of the Arzmäuer caves.

He called his wife and son, and at 3.28 a.m. all three of them observed a very large flying object with big torpedo-shaped openings of varying sizes. The object was descending and was at a height of about 1400 metres when they saw it. They watched it as it sailed to and fro between Almkogel to Bodenwies several times, giving off intermittent luminous flashes. In the meantime the small flying objects continued to pass in and out of the caves.

Then the large object began to gather up the small ones by turning so that one particular opening was in line with the small object. Then it approached it and drew the small object in through the opening.

By 4.32 a.m. the Santner family had observed six such operations consisting of a series of flashing signals followed by the recovery of a smaller object. The larger object then was lost to sight in a bank of clouds.

Further sightings followed during the next few days. Up to August 24 there were eight, and Herr Santner made a written record of them all.

On August 24, the party of people on watch at Saileralm comprised the Santner family as well as a number of members of the Linz section of the AIS, named as Herr Weisser, Herr Koehler and wife, and Fraulein Wiesmayer. At 9.40 p.m. they all observed a globular, yellowish-white, pulsating light which flew about in a zig-zag fashion over the area for about fifty minutes, as though making an investigation. The bulletin describes its size as no more than four times the size of a star of the first magnitude, but adds that they were able to see it very clearly and to note that at its outer edges it had "flickering peaks of light." The magnetic needle in a stationary compass which the observers had with them was seen to oscillate wildly several times. Two photographs were taken, one of which has turned out very well and looks quite good.

Two summer visitors to the district also confirmed the sighting.

Accompanied by Dr. Siegel, a cave expert from Linz, the members of the AIS made a search of the caves on September 7, 1963, but found nothing that appeared significant.

The following item from the close of the AIS report is interesting: "At 11.46 p.m. on August 24, 1963, as Herr and Frau Koehler were riding back on his motorcycle from Saileralm to Klein-Reifling, a light appeared overhead, and the engine of the motorcycle failed three times."

* * * * *

The article in the AIS bulletin carried no sketches, and it is a pity that no information is given about the photograph which "looked quite good."

Nevertheless it seems that we have here some fascinating details of a local "flap" that was occurring over Upper Austria in the summer of 1963, and that offers interesting parallels with the more recent cases reported from that same country by our correspondent Herr Ernst Berger.

UFO WITH A TASTE FOR FISH

Spectacular low-level sighting in the French Jura

J. Tyrode

Our contributor is an energetic field investigator for the *Lumières dans la Nuit* network in France. This article first appeared in LDLN No. 124, April 1973. Translation by Gordon Creighton

THIS sighting took place between 4.20 and 4.25 p.m. on November 2, 1972, at Doucier, near Ménétrux-en-Joux (Jura),* when the witness, Monsieur Vuillien, observed a saucer at very close quarters right above his fish-breeding pools beside highway D 326, at a point some seven kms. to the east of Doucier, Commune of Ménétrux-en-Joux.

The fish-farm draws its water from an arm of the nearby river, le Hérisson. Monsieur Vuillien was at work on a new building, and pushing his barrow to and fro along the narrow strip of ground separating his fish-pools from the road.

Coming back, with empty barrow, from east to west, he looked up and saw, very high in the sky, a series of white forms which he describes as resembling curls of smoke from a failing aircraft engine. Then he saw, lower down, and then again lower still, a continuation of this series of smoke curls right down to ground level. They seemed to be about 50 metres apart, in a dead straight line, and getting bigger towards the ground. As he stood there trying to see where the series ended he found to his astonishment that it ended in a magnificent saucer stationary just a few metres from him.

In panic, he dropped the shafts of the barrow. He was all alone out there, dusk was coming on, for his fish-farm lies in a deep valley bordered by hills 200 m. high. The whole valley was already in shade and it was getting dark. Up above, the sky was very clear and bright, especially so.

That he was looking straight at a flying saucer, in this lonely spot, he could not doubt, though he had hitherto never believed the reports of such things. He had heard talk of them but had never taken any interest in a matter, which for him, seemed so remote and mythical and abstract. Now, the moment of truth had come for him.

His sketch shows the classic type of "saucer", and our photograph, taken by me, shows the spot, with the sketched saucer superimposed upon it in the position in which the witness saw it.

M. Vuillien thought it was about 40 metres from him, but on checking the site I find that it was exactly 56 metres from him. He had reckoned the height of the background trees at 25 m., but in fact they are 35 m., so his figures require to be multiplied by a factor of 1.4 (approximately).

The saucer had a circular lower part which I estimate to have been 28 m. in diameter and 1.70 m. thick. This lower portion was markedly rounded or curved over towards the edge, and the underneath showed a slight bulge. In the centre of the top of the upper disc was the cupola, some 17 m. wide at its base and some 3.5 m. high.

The underside looked metallic and had the colour of polished aluminium. On the other hand the cupola on top could have been, he felt, of plexiglass. He was struck by the strangeness of its hue, and compares it with the material used in the manufacture of certain types of fancy spectacles which permit the wearer to see through them while acting like a mirror for anyone looking at them. He says it is impossible for him to give an exact word to describe the precise shade of this cupola.

He had the feeling that he was being watched from inside the cupola by someone he was unable to see.

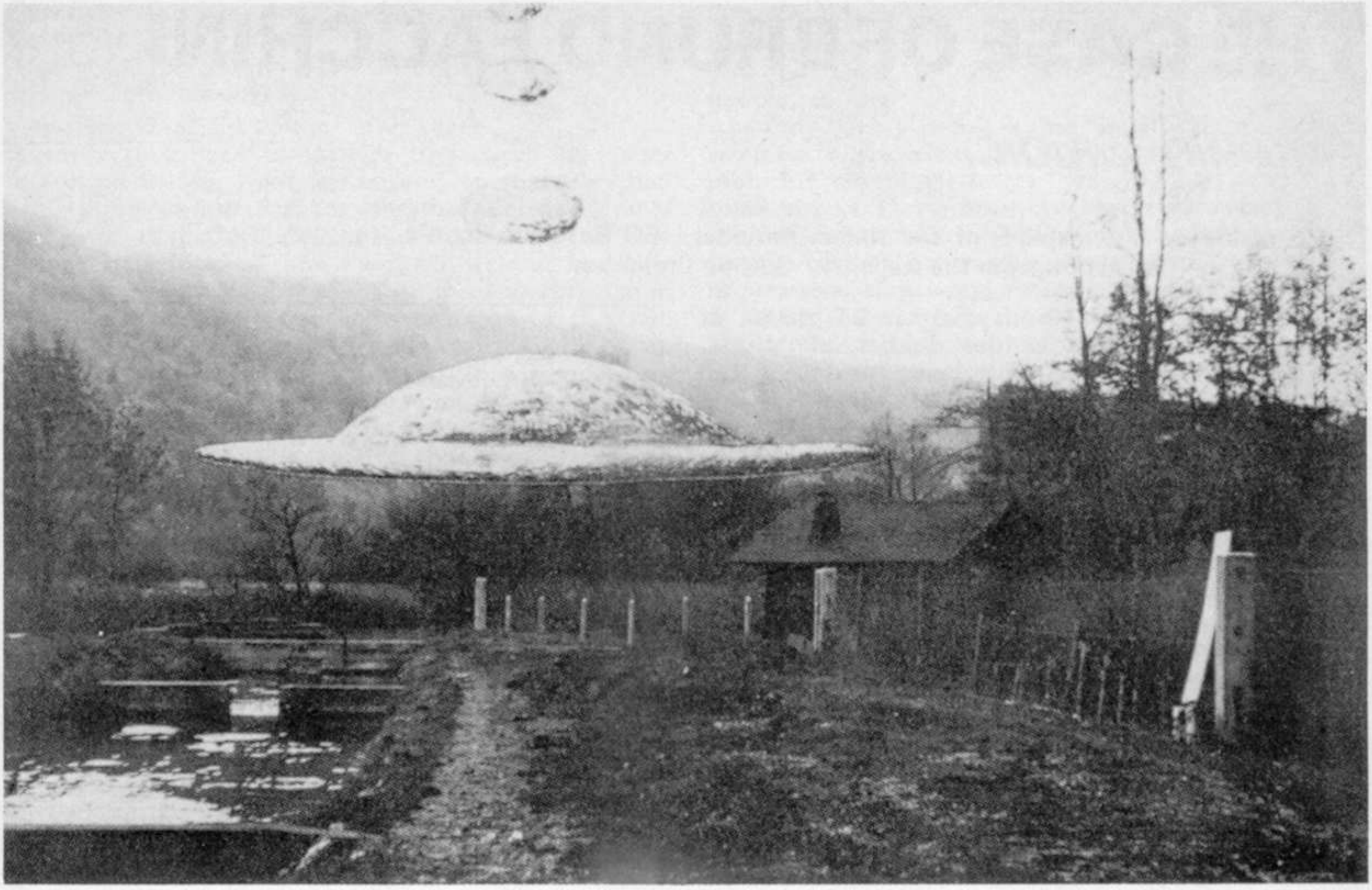
He was able to see that the saucer had no sharp edges or angles, and nothing of an engine was visible, and not a bolt, nor a rivet. All was completely sealed, smooth, polished. ("Unless it was spinning at a vast speed," he said, "though it would surprise me greatly if this were the case.")

Making our measurements of the site against the background of trees shown in the shadows, we have concluded that the height of the UFO above the ground was around 7 metres, and certainly not more than 8 metres. A part of it was higher, from where the witness stood, than the hut visible in the rear (a little low wooden building of one storey, standing at ground-level), and thus it was not more than about 4 m. higher than the roof of the hut. The saucer's great size, its complete immobility, its utter lack of sound – all this in the profound silence of that lonely place, made a deep impression upon him. It was right above one of his tanks. Whatever would the effect on his trout be! And would it do any damage to the hut?

And so for five long minutes it hung there – "and that's a long, long time, you know!" as he said to me. It is quite certain that in such moments one lives eternities. When you are all alone, in a place like that, with no possible hope of help from any quarter, indeed it must have seemed a long five minutes to Monsieur Vuillien! He was frightened, perplexed, envisaging all the possibilities, including the possibility that the UFO's occupants might carry him off. And so he stood there, rooted to the spot, awaiting what would happen next.

When curious questioners asked him later why he did not venture closer to the craft, he replied simply that, not knowing how the machine functioned (might it, for example, have rockets which were fired when it took off?) he was afraid he might get a thorough roasting, or that it might set the wooden hut alight as it took off.

* East – Central France.



Photograph of the trout farm tanks, with sketches of the UFO based on drawings by the witness, superimposed on it to show the hovering and take-off positions

Suddenly the saucer changed position, performing a rocking movement which brought the cupola closer to him. The magic spell was suddenly broken. Now – he felt certain – now *"They"* were coming for him!

He leapt towards his car, which was standing only a few metres distant, and got out his gun. "I loaded it with three cartridges of buckshot, and waited." He stood there, with barrel loaded, leaning against one of the posts of the fence, waiting for the saucer to dive at him, or for someone to emerge from it and come and try to seize him.

Would he have fired? Well, no, says he. Or only if *"They"* had turned out to have hostile intentions towards him.

It was the saucer that finally broke off the contact. It began to move, and went straight backwards some 50 metres or so, still maintaining the same height. Then it became stationary again. He says that when it did the rocking motion it moved through 90°. But in fact it seems clear that he never saw the object as an ellipse, i.e. from the side, so that the degree of movement in the rocking to and fro was in fact a matter of 60° rather than of 90°. This rocking movement continued as it moved backwards the 50 metres or so. Monsieur Vuillien chose this moment to glance at his watch: it showed 4.25m.

(We may feel astonishment to hear these precise details, but it is a fact that, in certain sorts of situations, one does look at one's watch, and I have had personal experience of this myself. For Monsieur Vuillien was finding the time dragging very heavily indeed, and in fact he looked at his watch frequently.)

Now again something was to happen suddenly. The saucer had moved backwards quite slowly to its new stationary position. Abruptly it shot straight upwards, absolutely vertically, very fast, so that in three seconds it was at an enormous height. When we asked him how high, he spoke of the order of 10,000 metres, the height at which the airliners pass overhead on their way to Geneva. This is of course just a guess on his part. (If correct, it would mean that the machine had moved at 12,000 km.p.h.)

The saucer remained stationary again for three minutes at that height, and then moved off towards the west at very great speed.

A few moments later, an aircraft passed over, leaving its contrail, and it struck him that it was at about the same altitude as the saucer.

His three dogs which were there at the fishery with him had shown no reaction throughout.

As is usually the case, I found no radioactivity at the site, and I was able to reassure Monsieur Vuillien as to the fate of his 50,000 trout. At times, in certain cases, investigators have reported finding vestigial magnetization. Apart from the fact that the roof of the little hut contained some metal, my compass showed no local reactions of note.

THE CASE OF BRUNO FACCHINI

Antonio Giudici

Our contributor is a member of the Italian National UFO Research Centre (CUN), Milan. Translation from the Italian by Gordon Creighton.

While, so far as we recall, there have been only a few cases in which UFO percipients claimed to have observed entities walking around landed craft and seemingly inspecting the hulls, rarer still are the cases where it is claimed that actual *repairs* were being carried out. We have just given one such case in Ted Bloecher's *UFO Landing And Repair By Crew* (FSR Vol.20 Nos. 2 and 3).

Here is another remarkable story of the same kind, involving (as we may speculate) an object which may have been damaged in a storm. And metallic material is alleged to have been left by the occupants of the UFO.

GORDON CREIGHTON

AT 10.00 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 1950, at Abbiate Guazzone (in the district of Varese, Northern Italy) a most singular adventure befell Signor Bruno Facchini, who was 42 years old at that date. A skilful and highly esteemed worker, he was employed by a local industrial firm, and was living in a little house on the outskirts of the town, a few metres distant from the provincial highway leading to Milan.

On the evening in question the region had been swept by a violent storm. Just before 10 o'clock the rain had stopped. Far off in the distance the last flashes of lightning could still be seen, and Bruno Facchini had stepped out of the house to take a breath of fresh air. After a glance at the sky, which was now clearing, he was re-entering the house when his attention was drawn to a peculiar flashing a few hundred metres distant. Here are his replies to the questions which we put to him during our interview:

Question. What happened on the evening of April 24, 1950, when you stepped outside from your house?

Answer. I was just coming back in again when I noticed some strange flashes a few hundred metres or so from the house. As there is a high tension power line passing over right at that spot and a pylon with electrical equipment standing right in front of my house, I immediately thought of the storm we had just had, and of the possibility that it might have damaged the electricity system. So I put on a pair of old boots and decided to go over there and have a look at what had happened. I proceeded with the maximum caution as I was afraid there might be broken power-lines lying about on the ground. When I had got to a point where I was underneath the power-line and I had noticed nothing abnormal, I decided once more to go back indoors.

Question. Why didn't you?

Answer. I was close by the power-line, and everything appeared to be normal and then, just as I was on the point of coming back to the house I saw the strange flashing again, and this time I could see that it was a little further away from where I stood. So I decided to go closer. It was a dark night, but I had no fear, I didn't believe in ghosts. When I did get closer, I caught sight of an enormous black shadow, almost round in shape (it looked like a ball with the top part flattened). In the middle of it I could see a little ladder, and from the top of the ladder was coming a greenish light.

I was now able to have a close view of the source of the flashing, that is, I saw quite clearly an individual who, from the top of a pneumatic lift (of the type made with a base, an extensible shaft, and a platform on top) seemed to be standing and doing a welding job. I could see quite clearly that the individual who was welding was wearing a diving-suit and a mask.

My curiosity now aroused, I stepped closer, and now also saw two other individuals, likewise in diving-suits and masks, moving about very slowly around the machine, which caused me to think that the suits they were wearing must be very heavy for them. The machine, which was of a dark colour, showed metallic reflections when lit up by the flashes coming from the welder.

Question. What were your thoughts at that moment?

Answer. I knew that the intercontinental airport of La Malpensa was only a few kilometres from there, and that there were military airfields at Vergiate and Venegono. So I thought I was looking at an aircraft that had suffered a forced landing, and I told the men that I lived close by and asked them if they needed any help. The only reply I got were some incomprehensible guttural sounds.

I tried to guess what their intentions were, and I got the impression that they wanted to invite me to get up into the machine. Then I heard a noise like the sound of a "gigantic bee-hive," or perhaps it might be better to say "like a big dynamo," and I saw, inside, another ladder going up, and all around, on the walls, tubes, cylinders and gauges. In that precise moment I realized that it couldn't be an aircraft, and I was seized by a sensation of panic and fled.

But after I had run a few paces I turned round, and saw one of the pilots grab a sort of camera that he was carrying round his neck and shoot a beam of light at me. I carried on running, and simultaneously I had the impression that I had been struck by a blunt instrument or, to put it better, by a powerful jet of compressed air, and I fell to the ground, landing, for further measure, right on top of one of the boundary stones marking the edges of the fields.

Question. Did you lose consciousness, or did you retain it?

Answer. I felt severe pain from the bruising, but I was perfectly conscious.

Question. What did you see after that?

Answer. It seemed as though they were no longer interested in me. I got the impression that they had wanted to punish me for my disobedience, but I was sure that they did not desire to do me any harm. The individual who had been welding had now come down (the lift on which he was standing had in fact descended, its tubes re-entering) and the two others who had remained on the ground picked up the lift, now reduced in size, put it into a small box and stowed it inside the machine, the ladder was drawn in, and the door closed. Everything became dark. The noise like a beehive continued. Then, all of a sudden, it grew louder, and more powerful, and the machine rose at fantastic speed and vanished into the darkness.

Question. Could it, in your opinion, have been any kind of combustion engine or jet engine?

Answer. No! It wasn't that sort of noise, and I saw no kind of light. To me it seemed far more like an electric motor or one run by compressed air. Something very silent. I don't think anything would have been audible from it after they had reached a height of 500 metres or so. It was certainly a matter of a few seconds, after which all was as silent as the tomb again, and I was standing there alone in the field with my eyes glued to the sky. I couldn't see any moving light. Only the stars shining and glittering sharply in the clear night sky.

Question. Can you give me any further details about the clothing of the pilots?

Answer. They were wearing dark grey (or at any rate it seemed to me grey) diving-suits, which I thought were heavy, in view of the difficulty in movement that I noticed. On their faces they had masks, also grey. I could see a tube hanging down from the level of the mouth and with an opening at the end of it. This led me to think that the tube could be joined to another tube, or to a cylinder. During the brief bursts of light from the welding, I thought I could see that the skin of the face behind the "glass" of the mask was light-coloured. Their form was human, and their height around 1.70 metres.

Question. Do you know any foreign languages? Did it perhaps seem to you that you could understand what language they were talking?

Answer. I know a little French, and during the War I heard German, though not understanding it. But I can rule out those two languages. The pronunciation was in single syllables, and the sound was guttural. When I asked them whether they needed any help, one of them replied with a sound like "*Gurr, gurr!*" Maybe however the words as they reached me were distorted by the mask. I distinctly noted two large earphones of the type used by radio-telegraphers, but bigger.

Question. On their heads or backs did you notice any antennae such as are invariable shown in Science Fiction?

Answer. No. No signs of antennae or anything similar.

Question. After the strange machine had gone, did you go back to the spot? Did you call other people to see it?

Answer. No. I went home quietly and spent a sleepless night. Next day I returned to the spot to look for my cigarette-case which I had lost. I saw some marks there, not very visible however, as the soil of the meadow, which was under grass, was pretty hard. The marks consisted of four round impressions about one metre in diameter and set in a square, about six metres apart. I also noticed burnt grass, and a few bits of metal, which I picked up, and which were probably the residue left from the welding.

Question. What did you do during the following days?

Answer. I reported the matter to the Police Headquarters in Varese and investigations were carried out on the spot by the Authorities. I had an analysis made of the metal, which turned out to be "an antifriction metal." It was a shiny metal, with a granulous surface. What is more important is the fact that I have never got over the shock that I suffered. Even today, years after, from time to time I feel hot flushes on the face without any signs of fever.

My interview with the witness terminates here. Several other residents of the neighbourhood saw something strange that night, but there is no information as to what.

A few days after the experience, Bruno Facchini began to have pains in that part of his back where the beam of light had struck him, and the area started to turn black. The pain lasted for over a month.

As regards the pieces of metallic evidence found, these were analyzed by the Institute for Testing Light Metals *(Istituto Sperimentale dei Metalli Leggeri:* Report No. 530954/4157 of September 30, 1953: "Examination of Some Metallic Fragments Attributed to a Flying Saucer," wherein it was established that – "...the sample received consisted of three small metal fragments of a yellowish-white colour and with a total weight of 1.64 gms. The percentage results of the chemical analyses made are as follows:

Copper	74.33%	Tin	19.38%
Lead	4.92	Antimony	0.52
Zinc	0.33	Nickel	0.08
Iron	0.02		

plus minimal traces of silver, aluminium, and magnesium. The fragments in question thus consist of a 'leaded bronze' with a high tin content. The micrographic structure appears entirely normal for a bronze of the type in question, in cast state. The presence of no rare elements was detected, nor of any elements generally held to be abnormal for an alloy of this sort. It is very probable that the fragments examined by us came from the packing layer of a very – bearing.*"

* One word *(sollecitato)* not understood in the context in which it is used here,–G.C.

References (Bruno Facchini case)

Notiziario U.F.O., No.37 (Jan./Feb. 1971), pp. 19-22.
Dischi Volanti No.1, March 1960 (pp. 19-20), Investigation by Pino Carminati Ghidelli of Milano.
Deomenica del Corriere, April 1952.
Rivista Aeronautica, May 1953.
Operazione Plenilunio, by Renato Vesco. (Pub. Mursia, 1972), pp. 237-239; 254-256, 268, note 3.

Translator's Note

My shorter version, published on page 4 of FSR Vol.9, No.2 (March/April 1963) agrees on all substantial points with the fuller one given above. I took it from a series of articles on UFO reports in Italy by Renato Albanesi for the *Domenica del Corriere* (issue of October 28, 1962).—G.C.

World round-up *of news and comment about recent sightings*

England

Manoeuvres over the Thames estuary

The following signed statement about an event last summer was sent in by **Mrs. D. Marks**, whose interest in the subject of UFOs had been aroused by reading *The Humanoids* and other books. The witness is her brother, Ronald Clarke, who lives in Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, and who, because of the ever-present possibility of ridicule, had not told anyone else of an experience that puzzled him. He had no knowledge of the subject and only told Mrs. Marks because he learned of her recently acquired interest:

"At approximately 11.00 p.m. on Sunday July 14, 1974, I was driving along Goresbrook Road, Dagenham, when I saw a large bright light in the sky. As it was such an exceptionally large object I stopped my car to have a further look.

"The object appeared to be above the River Thames, or in that vicinity, travelling very fast from the direction of London towards the Southend area of the estuary.

"After travelling some distance, during which time it seemed to pass quite close to an aircraft travelling in the opposite direction, the object stopped and hovered for approximately one minute during which time the huge light dimmed and grew brighter at regular intervals. It then proceeded to return in the direction from which it had come, passing out of my view behind two blocks of flats. When it reappeared a large flash like the tail of a rocket was emitted momentarily. It then passed behind another block of flats and did not reappear immediately on the other side.

"I waited approximately three minutes, whereupon the object reappeared, travelling again towards the estuary, now even faster than the first time. When it had reached virtually the exact position where it had hovered before, the light just disappeared.

"One minute it was travelling very fast, the next it was gone and although I waited quite some time it did not reappear."

Wales

UFO over Milford Haven

From the *Western Mail* of February 27, 1975, we learn how—

"A new twist to the UFO mystery came last week with the sighting by two Pembroke Dock teenagers of a strange white light over the Haven. This and another independent sighting were reported to the police.

"Sixteen-year-old Ted O'Mara, 25 Church Street, spent Tuesday night of last week at the home of his friend, 14-year-old Roy Roberts, 23 King Street.

"After watching a soccer match on television the boys played cards before going to bed.

"Roy said this week: 'My bedroom overlooks the Haven and while we were playing cards – at about 12.45 a.m. on Wednesday – it was suddenly filled with a very bright light. We looked out of the window and saw an object spinning across the sky.'

"Ted O'Mara recalled that the object was high over the Haven Bridge when they first observed it.

" 'It was a cone of light, red on top and spinning so that we could see that there were three other different coloured lights on it, blue, green and orange. The sky was clear and the night was still, and when we opened the window we could hear a whirring noise, like the humming of a top. It seemed to be hovering when we first saw it, but it suddenly moved off at fantastic speed, the fastest I've ever seen anything move in the sky, towards Milford Haven and westward. We watched it for a few more minutes and then there was a faint flash, like distant lightning, and it disappeared.'

"Neither boy was sure of the object's height, but Roy said: 'As the outline, in the shape of a cone, was so well lit, I got the impression that it was not very high. If it had been moving at a great height the outline would not have been so clearly visible to the naked eye. It was a beautifully-clear night, with no cloud.'

"Another sighting was made by Miss Heather Kiff, a member of the staff of the Mentally Handicapped Unit at the South Pembrokeshire Hospital, who saw the object as she was going home shortly after 12.30 a.m.

"The police at Pembroke Dock said yesterday that they had received no other reports concerning the mysterious object.

"It was only last summer that the police themselves were involved in a UFO sighting at nearby Pembroke. Three officers on pre-dawn motor patrol duty in the town spotted several strange objects moving at great speed across the town. The objects were also seen by a number of boys camping out on Monkton shore.

"On the north side of the Haven there have been recent reports of UFOs at Hook and at Clarbeston Road."

Credit: **F.W. (Ted) Holiday.**

Scotland

Bright UFO buzzes climbers

This item is taken from the *Scottish Daily Express* of October 14, 1974, —

"Two climbers came down a mountain last night and told of a weird, brightly-lit flying object which passed close to them early yesterday.

"Policeman David Dawson, 33, of Fort Matilda Place, Greenock, and Alan Kerr, 25, a civil engineer from Aldutha Avenue, Dumbarton, were returning from Tower Ridge, on Ben Nevis when they spotted the UFO.

" 'At about 4 a.m. we were sitting resting when it happened," said Constable Dawson. 'A bright light appeared about 400 feet below us, as if it was travelling along the bottom of the glen. At first it looked like a star.'

" 'Then it rose and came above us, about 600 feet away, and we could

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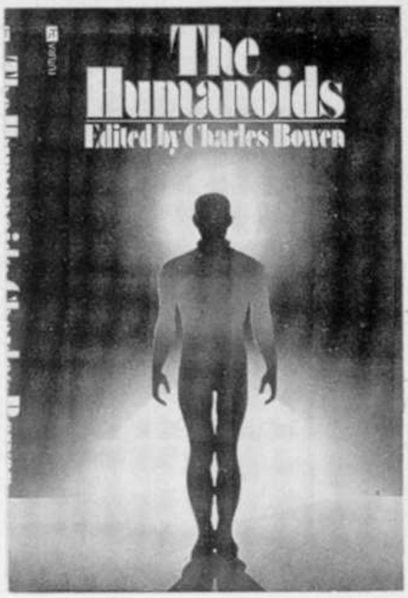

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Artwork by Eileen Buckle

hear a deep, rich, powerful sound, like the humming noise of an electricity transformer. 'It was not a meteorite or any plane or helicopter that we have seen or heard before. There was an engine and I would have guessed that it was a manned vehicle.'

"Last night the authorities could give no answer to the mystery. No other report had been received and there should have been no aircraft in the area.

Credit: **Alistair J. Simpson** of Kircaldy, Fife.

Venezuela

Attempted abduction

The following report appeared in *La Razôn* (Buenos Aires newspaper) of August 6, 1974,–

"Maracaibo (Venezuela) (Latin Press agency report):

"Two peasants who live near here, and who swore that they are abstainers, have stated that extraterrestrial beings who emerged from a flying saucer tried to capture them, for purposes unknown. Ricardo Chaika and Adaulfo Monteil have described to the newspaper *El Mundo* how, shortly after dusk, just as they were returning to their homes, they were blinded by a sudden light from the sky, and an object appeared which was 'round and flattened at the sides, and of a silvery colour.'

"Terrified, they wanted to run away, but only felt themselves slipping backwards to the same spot and finally stood there petrified. 'We wanted to run, and yet something prevented us from moving, while, from the strange machine, two figures came out, looking like men, in leaden-coloured clothing like the skin of sardines.'

"They said the two beings were more than two metres high and both had dark-coloured belts and were wearing blue goggles in front of their eyes. In the words of one of the two peasants, 'I did not see how they walked, but they came towards us slowly, and making signs with their hands, while from the machine there came a sound like a whistle.'

"The scene reached its culmination when, as Chauka and Adaulfo described it, two other machines came down out of the sky, as though suspended from invisible cords, and took the first machine and the two 'sardine-skin' occupants in tow. Only then, said Chauka and Adaulfo, did they at last feel themselves able to move again, and took to their heels."

Credit and thanks to **Miss Jane Thomas** of Buenos Aires. Translation from Spanish: Gordon Creighton.

MAIL BAG

The Editor regrets the smallness of this column, caused by pressure on space rather than shortage of material

Correction

Dear Sir,–An omission in your recent Special Issue No. 5 *UFO Encounters* should be noted. The by-line on the article, "The Yorba Linda Photograph" should read "by Ann Druffel and Lawrence Kirsch."

It should also be noted that Tom X's photograph of the black top-hat-shaped object carries a 1972 U.S. Copyright and cannot be duplicated in public without permission.

Ann Druffel
257 Sycamore Glen,
Pasadena, Calif. 91105 U.S.A.

Can anyone help?

Dear Sir,–May I avail myself of the facility provided by your correspondence columns to enquire whether the letters ETOAIN have any significance or "ring any bells" in the field of UFO research?

If any of your readers find them of significance or have comments to make, I would be very glad to hear from them.

Dr. J.R. Markette, M.D.
Department of Psychiatry,
University of Texas, Medical Branch,
Galveston, Texas, USA.

The Knutsen photograph

Dear Sir,–Concerning the Knutsen photo, (FSR Vol.20 No.4, p 29-30) I think the possibility of a hoax is very likely. In support of this, the background in the picture appears to be fairly clear, allowing for the fact that it was taken through a window, indicating a focus on infinity. The UFO, in contrast, is blurred somewhat. An object "400 feet away at its closest point" should be as clear as the background scenery. The explanation that the blurring could be due to motion is, to me, invalid because the blurring is uniform; not the case if the object were moving in a particular direction. Also the 3 second duration and the boy's description of the object's motion should mean the UFO was constantly active (not apparent in the photo). The boy's interest in UFOs is another factor.

My own explanation would be a cutout or other object pasted on the window and photographed.

Note similarities of this case, and explanation, to that of Alex Birch (FSR, Vol.18, No.6, p 2).

I do not want to be a "stick-in-the-mud" but I think FSR readers wish to be concerned with better reports.

Sincerely yours,
Barry Greenwood,
6 West Hancock Street,
Stoneham,
Mass. 02180, U.S.A.

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